

Support for English Learners

Unit 15, page 118: Words with st

Some children may have difficulty pronouncing words that begin or end with the consonant blend *st*.

Listen

Say: *We are going to listen to and practice saying some words that begin or end with st.* Explain that the sounds of *s* and *t* are said together, or blended. Explain that *st* can appear at the beginning or at the end of a word. Point out that the *st* blend sounds the same in either position. Then model the Basic Words *nest* and *stop*. Say: *Let's listen to the sound of the st blend in nest: /s/, /t/, /ssst/, nsssst, nest.* Ask: *Where do you hear the st blend in nest? What type of animal lives in a nest?* Repeat with the *st* blend in *stop*.

Speak and Read

Practice the words *nest* and *stop*, emphasizing the consonant blend in each word. Encourage children to repeat after you, following the procedure described above. Say: *Let's say the Basic Word nest together, beginning with the sounds for st: /s/, /t/, /ssst/, nsssst, nest.* Repeat with *stop*.

Write the Basic Words *fast* and *stick* on the board and have a volunteer circle the *st* blend in each word. Say: *We spell fast with the consonants s and t at the end of the word. We spell stick with the consonants s and t at the beginning of the word.*

Spell

Beginning/Preproduction Distribute letter cards for *s* and *t*. Read aloud the Basic Words *fast*, *step*, *must*, and *stop*. Ask: *What sounds do you hear at the (beginning) of (step)? What letters spell those sounds?* Have children display the letter cards that show the beginning or ending consonant blend for each word.

Early Production/Speech Emergent Create word cards for the Basic Words *fast*, *step*, *must*, *stop*, and *best*. Have one child read the word cards aloud while a partner writes the words. Have children compare the words they wrote to the cards.

Intermediate/Advanced Read aloud the Basic words *fast*, *step*, *must*, *stop*, and *best*. Have volunteers write the words on the board and underline the consonant blends. Ask children to take turns using one of the Basic Words in an oral sentence.

