

Support for English Learners

Unit 29, page 186: Words Ending with er

Some children may have difficulty with the pronunciation of words ending with *er*.

Listen

Say: *The words mother, father, water, and flower have a sound in common. Each word ends with the er sound. Say /er/, then emphasize the sound separately and as part of the Basic Word water, and then say water. Repeat with mother, father, and flower.*

Speak and Read

Have a volunteer go to the board and write each word as you read it. Say: *Let's practice the vowel + r ending in the words mother, father, water, and flower: errr, mother; errr, father; errr, water; errr, flower. Encourage children to repeat after you.*

Ask children to think of one word with a long e sound and one word with a short e sound. Have volunteers write their words on the board and pronounce them. Point out the letters that spell the long and short e sounds. Contrast these spellings and sounds with the following words ending with *er*: *better, other, never, and under.*

Spell

Beginning/Preproduction Read aloud the Basic Words *mother* and *under*. Have children use letter cards to spell the *er* ending. Ask them to think of other Basic Words that end in *er*. Have them write the words on the board.

Early Production/Speech Emergent Read aloud the Basic Word *mother* and have children write the word on a word card. Ask them to think of a Basic Word ending in *er* that is the opposite of *mother*. Have children write the word on the back of the card on which they wrote *mother*. Repeat with *under* and *brother*.

Intermediate/Advanced Use the Basic Words *after, better, brother, flower, father, and other* in simple sentences. Record the sentences on sentence strips, making sure to underline the Basic Word in each. Give one sentence strip to each of six children. Ask each child to read aloud his or her sentence, say the Basic Word, and then say the Basic Word's *er* ending.

mother

under

brother