

Unit 7, page 54: Consonant Clusters

Some children may have difficulty pronouncing words with consonant clusters.

Listen

Tell children that the *sp* sounds at the beginning of the Basic Word *spin* form a consonant cluster. Remind children that a consonant cluster is two consonant letters whose sounds are blended together. Say: *Let's listen to the sp consonant cluster in the Basic Word spin: /s/, /p/; sp, sp, sp; spin. The word spin means to turn around quickly.*

Follow the procedure above to model the *gl*, *sk*, *st*, and *ft* clusters separately and in the Basic Words *glide*, *skin*, *last*, and *left*.

Speak and Read

Say: *Let's practice the Basic Word spin together: /s/, /p/; sp, sp, sp; spin.* Have children repeat after you. Have a volunteer model the *st* cluster in *test*. Continue with *glide* and *skin*.

Write *spin*, *glide*, *skin*, *last*, and *left* on the board and have volunteers circle the consonant cluster in each word. Say: *Some words, like glide and skin, have consonant clusters at the beginning of the word. Other words, like last and left, have the consonant clusters at the end of the word.* Have a volunteer model the *st* and *ft* clusters in *last* and *left*.

Spell

Beginning/Preproduction Create and display cards for the Basic Words *plant*, *spin*, *drag*, *next*, *test*, and *left*. Say: *I am thinking of a word that begins with pl.* Ask a child to point to and say *plant*. Place the card face down. Repeat for the remaining words.

Early Production/Speech Emergent Read aloud the Basic Words *spin*, *left*, *glide*, and *last*. Have children write the words in their word-study notebooks. Ask them to circle the consonant clusters. Encourage volunteers to think of other words containing the same consonant clusters and use them in simple oral sentences.

Intermediate/Advanced Write the consonant clusters *sp*, *st*, *ft*, and *gl* on the board. Have children sort the Basic Words by consonant clusters. Then ask them to identify the position of the consonant cluster in each new word as they read it aloud.

