

## Using Spin and Read Blocks for Introducing Phonics



### To use for decoding:

- Demonstrate how to sound out a word, starting with a sustained consonant such as *r* or *m*. Point to the letters as you say their sounds very slowly. Then say the word at normal speed.
- Let your child "help" you sound out a word by sounding out the first two letters and letting your child sound out **only the last** letter.
- Let your child "help" you sound out a word by sounding out only the first letter and letting your child sound out the **last two** letters.
- Together, sound out all letters of a word.
- Always let your child point to the corresponding picture if there is one.

### Exploring last letter changes:

- Begin with the word *rat*. Help your child sound out each word as he/she turns **only the third block**. He/she will sound out *ran*, *rag*, *rap*.
- Spell *mat*. Help your child sound out each word as he/she turns **only the third block**: *man*, *mag*, *map*. Point out that *mag* is not a real word!
- Do the same for *cat*: *can*, *cag*, *cap* and *bat*: *ban*, *bag*, *bap*. Point out any nonsense words.

### Exploring rhyming words:

- Begin with the word *rat*. Help your child sound out each word as he/she turns **only the first block**. Point out that *mat*, *cat*, and *bat* rhyme.
- Spell *ran*. Help your child sound out the word and then spin the **first block** to make and sound out *man*, *can*, and *ban*.
- Do the same for *rag* and *rap*
- Always make a big deal of and laugh at any nonsense words.

### To use for spelling:

- Lay out all the short /a/ pictures, word side down.
- Help your child name all the pictures
- Let your child choose one picture to spell
- Model segmenting the word. For example, you could say "This is a rat. /r/, /a/, /t/"
- Help your child spin the first block until he/she find the letter of the first sound.
- Together, sound out the first two letters.
- Help your child spin the third block until he/she find the letter of the last sound.
- Together sound out the whole word.
- Flip over the picture card and show how the word on the card matches the word on the spinner. Woo hoo!
- Repeat with the rest of the picture cards.