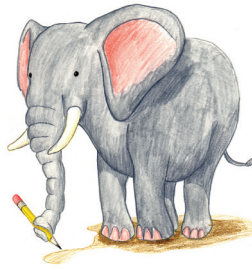




Saying Consonant Blends - Group 1

You're
reading
with...



the elephants!

Getting Ready - A Broad View of the Landscape Before You Begin



There are a wide variety of consonant blends and digraphs that your reader will begin to learn on this expedition. A solid understanding of the sounds of the letters, the One Vowel Rule and the Two Vowel Rule, and the mastery of consonant blends and digraphs will create a reader who will decipher new words with ease. Your reader will find spelling less of a challenge, as well, if armed with a solid grasp of these concepts.

Some consonant blends incorporate the beginning sound of two letters, such as "bl" or "gr". Others combine to make a completely new sound (such as the four in this expedition). Follow the steps outlined below. Then, guide your reader through the expedition.

- Step 1 Find the consonant blends and digraphs for this expedition in Flash Card Set 7 ("sh", "ch", "wh", "th"). One at a time, model the sound of each consonant blend for your reader. He or she should repeat the sound after you. Continue to do this, until you feel that the reader is ready to "read" the cards, without the benefit of hearing the sound modeled first.
- Step 2 Hold up each flash card and encourage your reader to "say this sound". When he or she has mastered each of the sounds independently, he or she is ready to read words containing these sounds in the next expedition.

Taking a Closer Look - Sample Dialogue to Help Direct Your Course

Tour Guide: (Begin by talking about what consonant blends are. Sometimes it's helpful to actually use a bowl and some flash cards from Flash Card Set 2 to illustrate this. Children have fun "mixing" up the cards. Use two individual letters to make "cr", or "bl", or "tw" or "gr".) "Pretend that we are bakers and we want to make 'consonant cookies' from our letters. First, we take a bowl and we put in a few letters - maybe a 'c' and an 'r'. We blend them together to form 'cr'. Let's use our blending fingers to sound out 'cr'."



Reader: (The reader says the "cr" sound with the Tour Guide)

Tour Guide: "Great! (The Tour Guide does the same thing with 'bl' and 'gr') We made 'cr' for crumbly cookies! (or 'bl' for blueberry cookies, or 'gr' for green cookies). Sometimes consonants can be blended together just as vowels can! But there are only 5 vowels and there are 21 consonants. There are many, many ways to blend the consonants together. Sometimes, when we blend certain consonants together, we form an entirely new sound. We don't just blend the letter sounds together. Think about how we blend colors. Do you know what you get if you mix yellow and blue together when you paint?"

Reader: "Green!"

Tour Guide: "How about when you mix blue and red?"

Reader: "Purple!"

Tour Guide: "It's like that with letters too. Sometimes when you blend them together you can get a completely new sound. That's what our next expedition is all about. We're going to learn four consonant blends that have special new sounds. Let's look at the first sound. (Tour Guide shows child the 'sh' card). What does the 's' say?"

Reader: "ssss"

Tour Guide: "Right! Now, what does the 'h' say?"

Reader: "hhh"

Tour Guide: "Right again! But when 's' and 'h' blend together, they say 'sh'. They make a completely new sound. Can you say 'sh'?"

Reader: "sh"

Tour Guide: "I'll say each of these four sounds, and you can repeat after me. After a few practice tries, we'll see if you can say them on your own. On our next expedition, we'll add these consonant blends to other letters in *The Reading Place* to make words."

**More Fun...
for Friends**

Make "ch ch ch chocolate chip cookies"!

Here's a special recipe for a yummy "ch" food we bet you'll love! Be sure to ask an adult to help.

In a medium bowl, combine these three dry ingredients and set them aside:

- 2 1/4 cups of flour
- 1 teaspoon of baking soda
- 1 teaspoon of salt

In a large mixing bowl, mix:

- 1 cup light brown sugar
- 1/2 cup white granulated sugar
- 1 cup of butter, softened

Add the following ingredients to the oil and the sugars, and beat them well with a mixer:

- 3 large eggs
- 1 teaspoons of vanilla extract

After the wet ingredients are well mixed, add the dry ingredients until they are combined. Stir in one twelve-ounce package of semi-sweet chocolate chips. Chill the batter in the refrigerator for several hours, covered.

Scoop out "golf ball" sized mounds onto a baking sheet and bake in a preheated oven at 350 degrees until browned but not dark, roughly 9 minutes or so. Let them cool for a few minutes on a baking tray before transferring them to a plate to completely cool. Yum, yum, yum!



The elephant is the largest land animal on earth. It can live to be 75-80 years old. That's a lot of candles on a birthday cake!



What You'll Need to Pack for the Safari



Flash Card Set 7, Flash Card Set 2, Extra Game Gear Card 7 (to play the Ship Shape! game in this folder), a mixing bowl and a good, quiet place to learn.

Results to Achieve During Your Expedition



First, the reader will imitate the sounds of the consonant blends "sh", "ch", "wh" and "th" after those sounds are modeled by the Tour Guide. Next, he or she will "read" the same consonant blends aloud from flash cards without hearing them modeled first.

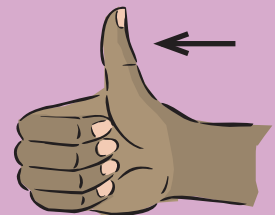
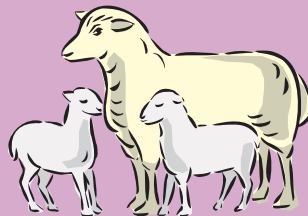
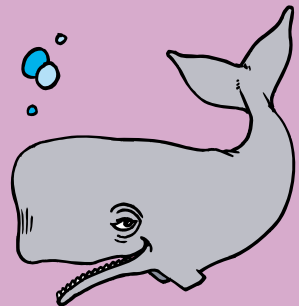
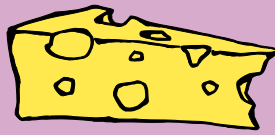
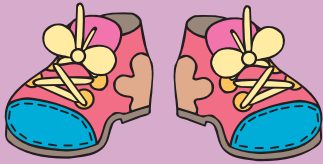
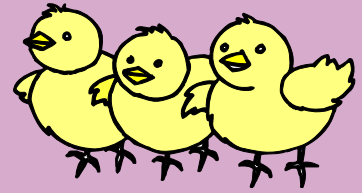
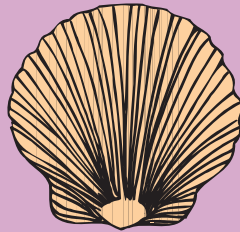
Accomplished with Excellence	Expedition Activities:
	Reader imitates "sh" sound modeled by Tour Guide
	Reader imitates "ch" sound modeled by Tour Guide
	Reader imitates "wh" sound modeled by Tour Guide
	Reader imitates "th" sound modeled by Tour Guide
	Reader says "sh" sound from flash card independently
	Reader says "ch" sound from flash card independently
	Reader says "wh" sound from flash card independently
	Reader says "th" sound from flash card independently
	Reader completes Funsheets (instructions to be read by Tour Guide)
	Reader draws a star on the Safari Success Trail poster, in space number 28 (check off Jungle Journal in the backpack to advance)

sh

wh

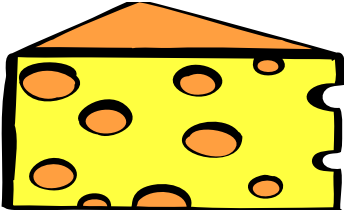
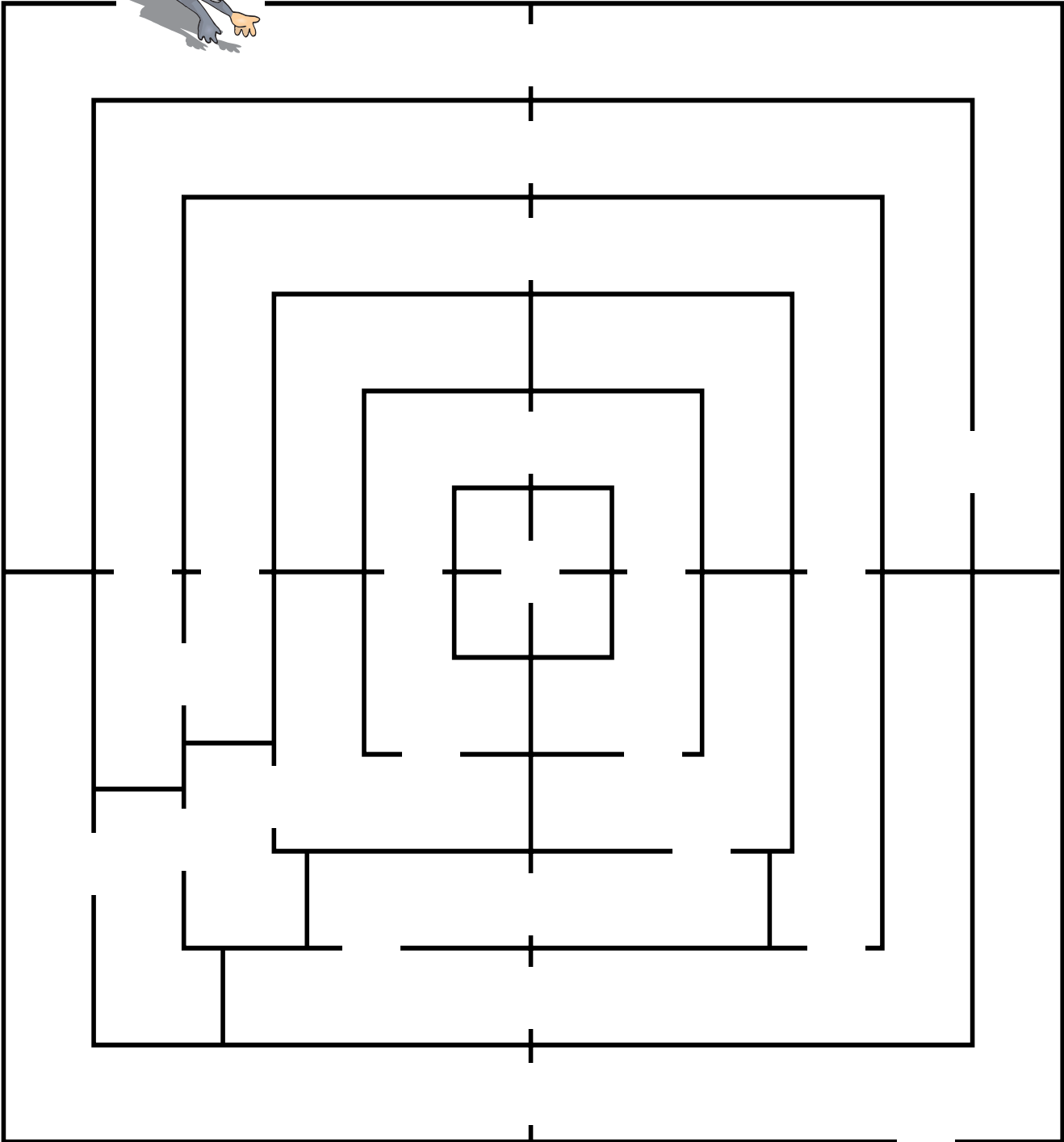
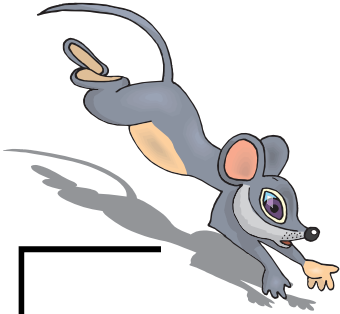
ch

th



Draw a line from the objects pictured to the notebook that has the correct beginning sound.

Help Chester the mouse find the cheese.





Ship Shape!



How to Play (for 2 players):

Cut out the 66 word tiles found on Extra Game Gear Card 7. On the tiles, there are 37 words with the consonant blends from this expedition at the beginning of the word and 29 words with the blend at the end of the word. Place the word tiles in a bowl and mix them up. The youngest player goes first. The player reaches into the bowl (with eyes closed) selects a word and reads it. If the word has the consonant blend at the beginning, the player says, "This word is ship shape!", and puts the word on the game board, atop the image of the ship. If the word has the blend at the end of the word, the player keeps the word in a pile at his or her play space. It is then the other player's turn to do the same thing. At the end of the game, the person with the *fewest* tiles in his or her pile, wins. In this game, the lucky tiles to pick are the ones with the consonant blends at the beginning. The Tour Guide should help the student *read* the words. The purpose of the game is for the reader to spot the consonant blends appearing in words.

