

# Silent "t" in "tch"



You're reading with...



the ostriches!

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



The silent "t" in words that contain "tch" thinks that it's invisible, but it's not. Sometimes, it's fun to draw a "t" and add head and some legs, making an invisible person, like this:

match ma*t*ch ma ch

The invisible person sneaks inside certain words and makes them look more complicated than they need to appear. Once your reader learns to spy the "tch" combination, it's easy to imagine covering up the invisible man (the silent "t") and reading the word using the familiar "ch" sound at the end.

Power Reader 26, our very last in the series, is entitled *Pumpkins in the Patch*. After your safari mate can successfully read the words in the section beginning on page 217 of *The Reading Place* with ease, and has also mastered the sight words associated with this expedition, he or she is ready to read the Power Reader. (At the end of the story, turn to the section entitled, Conversation Station. Talk with your child about how seeds grow into pumpkins and other plants. He or she may enjoy drawing a picture showing the process of a plant growing from a tiny seed in the soil. Planting some seeds in a cup or small flower pot is also a great activity to follow this expedition.)



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

**Tour Guide:** "I'm going to introduce the silent 't' to you. It thinks it's invisible, but it's not. Expert readers such as you will be able to see it - but because it thinks it's invisible we don't pronounce it. We pretend it's not there. We just read the word as if it has a 'ch' at the end. Are you ready to see it?"



**Reader:** "Yes!"

**Tour Guide:** "Here it is. (Showing child *The Reading Place* list). It's the silent 't' in words with 'tch'. I think the 'ch' sound was invited to be in these words, but the 't' decided to come along too, thinking no one would see him. He ended up in the words with 'ch', and now he's stuck there. I will bet that if you put your finger over the 't', you'll read all of the words easily and be ready for Power Reader 26 - our last one! Let's give it a try! First, we'll cover up our invisible person and then we'll read the words without covering him up!"



Sometimes, people dyed ostrich feathers different colors to make their outfits even fancier.

About 100 years ago, the fluffy ostrich feathers were a very popular material for making hats and for decorating dresses and other items of clothing.







This silly, old witch is cooking up a batch of "tch" words in her big, black pot. Say the words and circle the "tch" in each word.

ditch

match

latch

hatch

stitch

patch

fetch

notch

clutch

hitch





Read the words below without the silent "t" in them. Then, add the silent "t" and read them again! They don't change at all! The first one is done for you.



"Give me a silent "t"!"

la t ch

wi \_ ch

fe \_ ch

sti \_ ch

hi \_ ch

hu \_ ch

no \_ ch

di \_ ch

"Give me a "c"!"



"Give me an "h"!"



"What sound does that make?"

"ch"





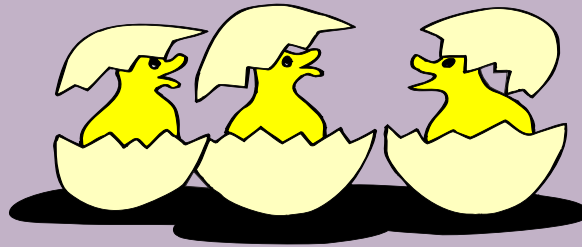
Read the words below each sentence. Circle the word that completes the sentence.

This player will \_\_\_\_\_ the ball.  
patch    pitch    ditch



This player will \_\_\_\_\_ the ball.  
batch    patch    catch

Did you know that baby chicks \_\_\_\_\_ from eggs?  
hatch    hitch    hutch



You should never play with a \_\_\_\_\_ .  
stitch    match    notch



# Pumpkins in the Pumpkin Patch!



Do you know how a pumpkin grows in a pumpkin patch? Read the six steps below.



1. A tiny seed is planted in the soil.
2. Soon, the seed sprouts.
3. The sprout forms a vine that grows above the soil.
4. A bud forms on the vine.
5. The bud turns into a pumpkin that grows and grows and grows!
6. The farmer picks the pumpkin from the patch.

