

## 4-Letter Word Cards

### Item #311



Prerequisites:

- The student can segment spoken words with 4 phonemes.
- The student has good recognition of the letters A to Z.

Purpose:

- To introduce decoding
- Phoneme segmentation practice
- Preparation for decoding

Activity #1:

1. Take a card from the stack that is placed face-down.
2. Identify the picture and segment the word into 3 phonemes.

*FLAG.* /f/../l/../a/../g/.

3. As you segment the word again, move your finger beneath the three letters from left to right. Then say the word as you touch the picture. You can say, “I am reading with my finger.”
4. Invite the student to read the same card in the same manner.
5. Take another turn in order to model the process again.
6. Alternate turns with the student as needed until the student can “read with his finger” as you have demonstrated to him.

Note:

- The student is using phoneme segmentation to read the letters correctly.
- This activity mimics what actual decoding looks like, sounds like and feels like.

Activity #2:

1. The student holds the deck of cards near his chest so you can’t see the pictures.
2. He “decodes” the word and you guess the hidden picture.

Challenge Activity:

1. Place the stack of word cards face down.
2. Decode the word on the top card then flip it over to see if you are right.
3. If you are right, the card is added to your personal stack. If you are incorrect, the card goes to the bottom of the stack.
4. Take another turn and then invite the student to take a turn.
5. Alternate turns as necessary until the student understands how to play the game.

Note:

- Because the pictures are face down, the child is being asked to decode a word without any picture clues. He will get some right and he will get some wrong, but he has been well-prepared to tackle this decoding challenge. And as he goes through this set multiple times, he gains greater accuracy and speed in reading letters and blending them quickly into the correct word.
- This is a perfect activity for a small group of students to play together.