

How to Chunk Words with Readers

- 1. Chunks are the “parts you know” in words that help you read them!** Your student has heard and said this during Reading Academy: “The best chunks have three or four letters!”
- 2. Where should your reader look for chunks?**
 - Always ask your reader to try to find a chunk in the beginning of the word first.
 - Next, look at the end of the word.
 - Check through the whole word to see chunks in the middle that may help.
- 3. Kinds of chunks to look for:**
 - **CVC** (consonant vowel consonant) chunk
 - Since these CVC chunks can be sounded and blended, they are easier to pronounce and “hear” at the beginning or end of a word.
 - These chunks are things like
 - wel (in “welcome”)
 - hic (in “hiccups”)
 - sum (in “summer”)
 - **CVCe** (consonant vowel consonant silent e) chunk
 - These chunks are things like
 - note (in “notebook”)
 - skate (in “rollerskate”)
 - **Vowel patterns**
 - These chunks are things like
 - ea (in “heater”)
 - oo (in “book”)
 - ai (in “rain”)
 - ow (in “bow”)
 - **Word parts at the beginnings or ends of words**
 - These chunks are things like
 - tion (in “action”)
 - er (in “heater”)
 - ies (in “ties”)
 - ing (in “sinking”)
 - ed (in “walked”)
- 4. After you find chunks in a word, sound and blend the chunks together to make the whole word.** If it doesn’t sound right, you may need to change the way you pronounce some vowels to make the word sound like one you know. Always read the sentence with the new word to be sure it makes sense.
- 5. Keep a chunking tablet where you write words you have chunked.** You can look back at the words later.
 - Write each word in one color.
 - Underline chunks in another color.
 - See examples on the back. Spacing has been added in some words to make chunks easy to see.

welcome

wel come

CVC chunk

Sight word "come"

island

is land

When you reread the sentence, this word should sound like something you know and make sense in the sentence!

rainbow

rain bow

reaction

re ac tion

information

in for ma tion

Is there another way you can say "ma"?

exhaust

ex hau st

flower

fl ow er

brother

br other