



## Blend It



It takes skill and practice to know how to combine speech sounds into words. Typically children learn to blend individual words into compound words first; then syllables into words. Blending individual phonemes (the smallest speech sounds) into words is even more challenging.

### **Word or Syllable Smoothie:**

Whisper a word in your child's one ear. (e.g. sail) Whisper a second word in his other ear. (e.g. boat) Can he tell, draw or act out the mystery word?



Can she figure out the mystery word by combining whispered syllables? (e.g. "Ba-na-na")

**Phoneme Smoothie:** Sing to tune "Are You Sleeping". Use the sounds rather than letter names.

c-a-t, c-a-t

What's the word that you heard?

c-a-t, c-a-t

I said cat. I said cat.

Provided by: *Ontario Early Years Literacy Specialists*