



## Discovering Sweet Word Segments

Oranges have segments, and so do words! Words segments are made up of syllables. They are also made up of beginning, middle and ending sounds. Being able to segment words is essential for children to learn how to spell.

### Bubble Gum Words

Pretend you are chewing a bubble gum word. Once this imaginary gummy word is soft, pull it slowly from your mouth one sound at a time. Stretch these word sounds (rather than letter names) so that your child hears the segments very slowly:

For example, say ‘b-u-b-l’ As soon as the word is all the way out, clap your hands and quickly say “bubble”.

Can your child make a bubble gum word from holiday words such as Christmas, Hanukkah, Muharram; or from the names of family members, pets or friends?



Provided by: *Ontario Early Years Literacy Specialists*