

Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

The Giving Tree

By: Shel Silverstein
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: J

Word Work

Instructional Focus:
Initial Consonant Blends

Background:
Initial consonant blends are words that begin with two or three consonants followed by a vowel. You can hear all of the letter sounds in the blend. For example, the word "tree" begins with a "tr" blend where both the "t" and the "r" sound can be heard.

Examples:

R Blends	S Blends	L Blends
br	sr	lr
cr	sr	lr
dr	sr	lr
fr	sr	lr
gr	sr	lr
pr	sr	lr
tr	sr	lr

Materials and Preparation:

- A Copy of *The Giving Tree*
- Chart Paper
- Colored Markers
- Consonant Blends Printout
- Sorting Cards (Set per group)
- Match Up Score Sheet
- Match Up Directions
- Missing Blends Practice
- Optional - Word Detective
- Optional - 3 Colors of Ink

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Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work

Introduce Initial Consonant Blends

- Draw the students' attention to the chart paper.
- Explain that consonant blends are words that begin with two or three consonants followed by a vowel.
- Review the vowels as being a, e, i, o, u.
- Write the word "tree" on the chart paper. You may want to use a different colored marker to write the consonant blend "tr."
- Explain that we can hear all of the letter sounds in the blend. For example, the word "tree" begins with a "tr" blend where both the "t" and the "r" sound can be heard.
- Draw the students' attention to the table of consonant blends on the chart paper.
- Ask the students to think of words that begin with blends. Allow students to turn and talk with a partner about the words they came up with or share with the class.
- Discuss any misconceptions if students share words that do not follow the consonant blend pattern. Record words that do follow the pattern on the chart paper.

Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading

Initial Consonant Blends in the Text

- Tell the students that the book they will be reading today has lots of examples of consonant blends.
- Show them pages 11-14 of *The Giving Tree*. Ask the students to listen carefully and look at the words while you read. Instruct them to put a thumb up when they hear a consonant blend word.
- Read "He would climb up her trunk and swing from her branches."
- After reading, ask the students to identify the consonant blend words (climb, trunk, swing, branches) and add them to the chart.
- Tell the students that you are going to read the book once from beginning to end. Tell them to be listening for consonant blends but remind them to be polite and not to interrupt you while you read.
- Read *The Giving Tree*.

Examples of Initial Consonant Blends found in the text:

tree	climb	trunk	branches
clim	sw	fr	om
ing			

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Step by Step Lesson Plan

Optional Activity to Extend Engagement

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus

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Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice

Interactive Exploration

- Provide each student with a set of sorting cards.
- Explain that the words on their cards are consonant blend words that were used in the book, *The Giving Tree*. Review each of the words whole group, discussing any unknown words.
- Instruct the students to sort the words according to the initial consonant blend (R blends, S blends, L blends).
- Divide students into pairs and allow them to play **Match Up** (refer to attached resources for directions).
- Monitor students to assess student understanding while playing **Match Up**.

Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice

Practice Page

- Give each student a copy of **Missing Blends Word Work**.
- Read the directions with the class.
- Tell the students to complete the practice page.
- Monitor students while they work.

Step 5: Reconnect and Reflect on Word Work

Group Discussion

- Bring the students back together.
- Ask students to explain what they learned about words based on the work they completed.
- Invite students to turn and talk with a partner about their word work.
- Invite 2-3 students to share what they learned with the group.

Step 6: Extend Word Work (optional)

Extension Activity

- Ask students to be on the lookout for initial consonant blends in their reading. Tell them to write their words on a sticky note and add them to the anchor chart (review the added sticky notes in the class later in the day or before moving on to the next word work lesson).
- Alternatively, students can keep track of the words using the **Word Detective worksheet**.

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Interactive Activities

Independent Practice Page

Extension Activity

Initial Consonant Blend Sorting Cards

Interactive Activity

Directions:
Cut out the sorting cards below. Use the cards to play **Match Up** or use them to sort by initial consonant blend.

tree	play
climb	trunk
swing	from

Guided Word Work Practice | ©BookPagez.com

Word Detective: Initial Consonant Blends

Extension Activity

Directions:
Be a word detective!
Be on the lookout for initial consonant blends while you read. Write the word that you find along with the title of the book where you found the word, the page, and the sentence with the word or phrase.

Word	Book Title	Page	Sentence

Name: _____ Word Work Extension Activity | ©BookPagez.com

Missing Blends

Word Work Practice Page

Directions:
Fill in the missing blend to complete each word. The first one has been done for you.

Blend Bank					
br	sl	bl	fr	sp	cl
fr	st	tr	sw	tr	sw
1. tr	ee	7. _____	ay		
2. _____	ayed	8. _____	ew		
3. _____	anches	9. _____	ee		
4. _____	unk	10. _____	eak		
5. _____	imb	11. _____	om		
6. _____	ump	12. _____	ing		

Name: _____ Independent Word Work Practice | ©BookPagez.com