

Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional
Focus Based on
the Words in
the Book

Word Work

The Rainbow Fish
By: Marcus Pfister
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: M

Instructional Focus:
Beginning Consonant Blends

Background:
Consonant blends are consonants at the beginning of a word that blend to make a new sound.

Examples:

bridge
bright
bring
clay
clip
glad
sharp

Materials and Preparation:

- A Copy of *The Rainbow Fish*
- Chart Paper
- A Fishbowl or A Plastic Bowl
- Beginning Consonant Blends
- Consonant Blends Printout
- Blended Categories Worksheet
- Optional - Word Detective Worksheet
- Optional - 3 Colors of Ink

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Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work

Introduce Beginning Consonant Blends

- Explain that some words have two consonants at the beginning like br, st, tr, sh, gl, sp, and so on. You might demonstrate props or pictures, like a brush, a shoe, bottle of glue, and a spoon.
- Ask children to raise their hands if they have a consonant blend at the beginning of their name.
- Draw the students' attention to the chart paper.
- Encourage children to brainstorm about words that begin with a given letter blend. For example, ask children to think of words that begin with the blend br. Record their examples on the chart paper. Brainstorm with several different blend combinations.
- Discuss any misconceptions if students identify words that do not follow the pattern. Write new words that do follow the pattern on the chart paper.
- Explain that some words have a three-consonant blend at the beginning like str in the word strawberry. These words are not part of this lesson.

Sample Anchor Chart

2 Blends	3 Blends	4 Blends
br	br	br
st	st	st
tr	tr	tr
sh	sh	sh
gl	gl	gl
sp	sp	sp
br	br	br
st	st	st
tr	tr	tr
sh	sh	sh
gl	gl	gl
sp	sp	sp

Free trunk swings branches
Missp frog

Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading

Beginning Consonant Blends in the Text

- Tell the students that the book they will be reading today has many words with beginning consonant blends.
- Show them page 1 of *The Rainbow Fish*. Tell the students to listen carefully and look at the words while you read. Ask the students to bring their hands together above their heads when they hear a word with a beginning consonant blend.
- Read "he would climb up her trunk and swing from her branches."
- After reading page 1, ask the students to identify several words with a beginning consonant blend from the story (e.g., blue, the scales, shade, green, sparkling, them, there). Add the words to the chart paper.
- Tell the students that you are going to read the book once from beginning to end. Tell them to be listening for words that follow the pattern. Remind them to be polite and not to interrupt you while you read.
- Read *The Rainbow Fish*.

Examples of Beginning Consonant Blends Found in the Text:

blue	there	glide	think
scales	the	ground	from
shade	them	shimmer	shook
green	they	piece	swam
sparkling	play	phony	

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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

- Give each student a copy of Pick 5.
- Encourage students to create a word for each beginning blend. When students have written a word for each blend, tell them to cut along the dotted lines to create word cards.
- Collect the cards from each student and place them in a fish bowl or other container.
- Distribute 5 cards to each student.
- Give each student a copy of the Pick 5 Drawing Mashup. Ask students to write their 5 words on the drawing page. Encourage students to draw a picture to show all 5 words. Give this example: If the words are bridge, crab, stop, train, and shoe, the child might draw a crab wearing shoes under a bridge with a train stopped at a stop sign.
- For younger children, ask students to pick 3 words rather than 5.
- Allow children share their pictures with the class. Hang the pictures around the room for ongoing review.

Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice

Practice Page

- Give each student a copy of Blended Categories 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 beginning consonant blends in the book reading. Tell them to write their words on a sticky note and add them to the anchor chart (review the added sticky notes with 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

Beginning Consonant Blends - Pick 5 Cards!
Interactive Activity

Directions:
Add letters to the consonant blend to make a word from the story. Cut on the dotted lines.

sp	ch
br	st
th	sh
gl	pr
cl	cr
tr	gr

Name: _____ Guided Word Work Practice | ©BookPages.com

Word Detective: Beginning Consonant Blends
Extension Activity

Directions:
Be a word detective!
Be on the lookout for beginning 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 | ©BookPages.com

Blended Categories
Word Work Practice Page

Directions:
Write a beginning consonant blend word for each of the categories listed below. The first one shows an example.

1. A boy's name: Steven	9. A real or pretend candy:
2. A girl's name: 	10. A color:
3. A cartoon character: 	11. A drink:
4. A famous person: 	12. A book title:
5. A sport: 	13. Something you can wear:
6. A real or pretend superhero: 	14. Something in your bedroom:
7. A pet name: 	15. An animal:
8. A food: 	16. A dessert:

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