## Connect the Sounds

Sound blending is an important skill for early readers. They need to put sound units—phonemes—together to be able to read a word smoothly. You can help your child start working on this by putting together sounds. Ask your child to connect the beginning sound with the rest of a word. For example, tell him/her, "Start with /p/ and add /ig/. What do word do you hear if you put them together?"

```
1. /c/
           /at/
2. /d/
           /og/
3. /st/
           /op/
4. ///
           /og/
5. /fr/
           /og/
6. /s/
           /at/
7. /f/
           /at/
8. /h/
           /op/
9. /m/
           /at/
         /p/ /at/
10.
```

\*\*This is really for four year olds. It doesn't hurt the three year olds to hear you go through this. Do not stress if your child isn't getting it completely. This is all about exposure.