Using Letter Tile Free Play to Practice Spelling Words

REALLY GREAT READING

Letter Tile Free Play can be used to practice spelling your child's single-syllable spelling words in a way that makes the words' sound-spelling connections clear.

Procedure

1. Tell your child the spelling word, say it in a contextual sentence, and then say the word again.

   - **Fish** – Our pet **fish** just swims in circles. **Fish**.

2. Your child should then segment, or separate, the sounds in the word using finger-stretching, or stretching out one finger for each sound, beginning with the thumb. This will tell them how many sounds, not letters, are in the word.

   - /f/ /i/ /sh/, fish – **3** sounds

3. Using the color tiles in Letter Tile Free Play, your child should pull down a color tile for each sound they hear in the word. We typically use the red tile to represent the vowel sound in the word.

4. Using the letter tiles, your child should spell each sound they heard, one at a time.
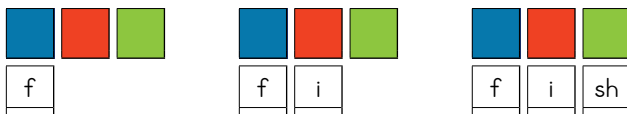
reallygreatreading.com/homeconnection

Learn more about finger-stretching in the Teacher/Parent Crash Course video in the "Other Resources" section of the Really Great Reading **Home Connection** website.
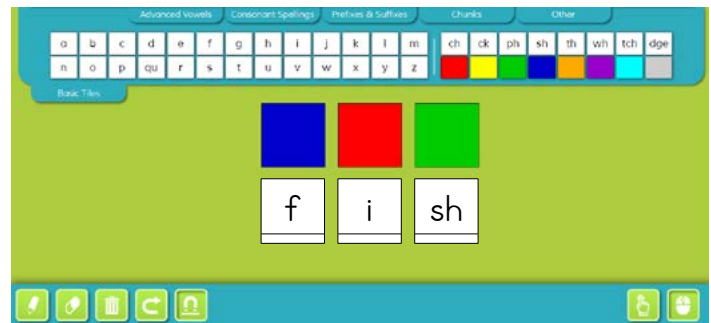
When a sound is spelled with more than one letter (ex: /sh/ is spelled with the letters **s** and **h**), they should use just one letter tile to represent that sound. The number of color tiles should match the number of letter tiles.

Examples of Other Words

Pull single-syllable words from the spelling lists correlated with your child's instructional program.

SPELLING WORD	CONTEXTUAL SENTENCE	LETTER TILE SETUP	
thin	The stick I found was **thin**, not thick.		
shell	We found a shiny **shell** on the beach.		* The 'll' letter tile is found in the Consonant Spellings tab in Letter Tile Free Play.
bring	Please **bring** the plate over here.		* The 'ing' tile can be found in the Chunks tab in Letter Tile Free Play.
heard	I've **heard** that song before.		* The 'ear' tile can be found in the Advanced Vowels tab in Letter Tile Free Play.
stood	I **stood** up when she called my name.		* The 'oo' tile can be found in the Advanced Vowels tab in Letter Tile Free Play.