

You can use a word chaining activity to help students practice their advanced phonemic awareness skills:

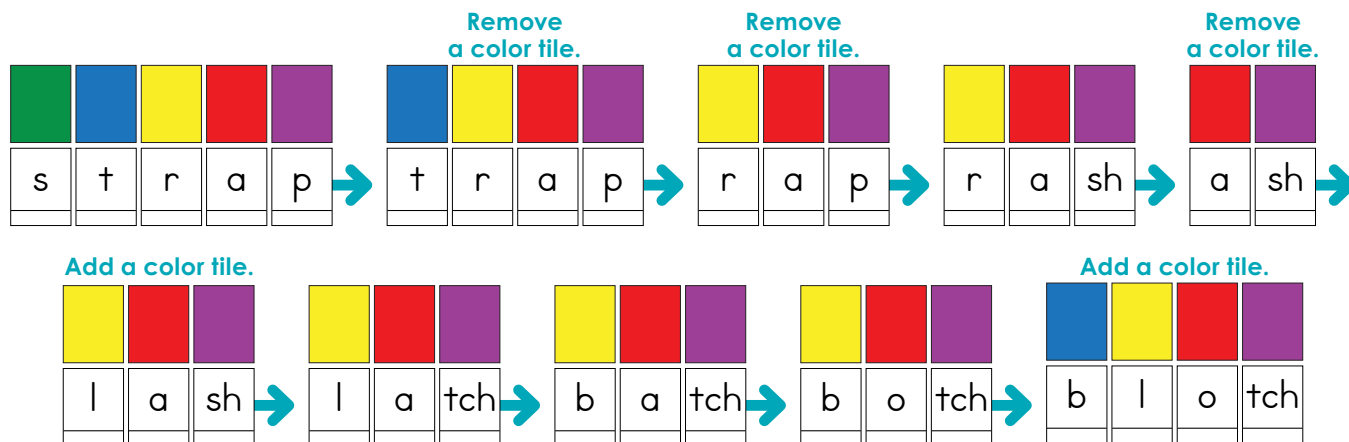
**SAY:**

- "strap"
- "Now, delete the first sound. What do you get?" **A:** trap
- "Next, delete the first sound again. What's the new word?" **A:** rap
- "Now change the final sound /p/ to /sh/. What's the new word?" **A:** rash

Continue giving oral prompts, asking students to add, delete, or substitute phonemes to create new words. You should be able to get all the way from **strap** to **blotch** by manipulating the phonemes!

**strap → trap → rap → rash → ash → lash → latch → batch → botch → blotch**

This activity can be done as a pure phonemic awareness task without showing students any letters. However, these advanced phoneme manipulation tasks can also be used with color tiles to make the phonemes more concrete and/or with letter tiles to help students encode and decode complex single-syllable words with digraphs, 2-sound blends, and 3-sound blends.



Visit [www.ReallyGreatReading.com](http://www.ReallyGreatReading.com) to see our popular color and letter tiles that can bring this activity to life for your students! You can also find this Word Math activity in our engaging **HD Word lessons**. HD Word is a fun and efficient instructional solution for preventative, supplemental Tier 1 instruction in just 15-25 minutes a day in Grades 2-5 or intervention for older students who have solid basic phonics skills but struggle with the more advanced features of words.

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