

# Brief Focus Lesson

## Chunk Letters and Sounds Together.

Text: *The Incredible Painting of Felix Clousseau* by: Jon Agee

<b>CAFE Goal</b>	Accuracy
<b>CAFE Strategy</b>	Chunk Letters and Sounds Together.
<b>Observe/Relate</b>	<p>When I read, I pretend that I am an explorer on a big adventure. I'm not traveling to faraway places, but I'm exploring words and discovering new things about them. There are different parts of words and letters that I look for when I explore new words. I try to spot compound words on the page. Often, I look for smaller words hidden inside longer words. For example, when I read the word "artist," I see the smaller word "art." Occasionally, I look for words that begin with two letters blended together, like the <i>bl-</i> in <i>blue</i> or the <i>br-</i> in <i>brown</i>; other times, I'll decide to hunt for words that begin with prefixes like <i>un-</i>, <i>re-</i>, or <i>dis-</i>. Then I'll try to figure out how adding the prefix changes the meaning of the word. Exploring words that end with suffixes is fun, too! It's amazing how many words end with suffixes like -ing, -ed, -ness, or -ment. If you explore these words, you see how suffixes change their meanings.</p>
<b>Teach and Reinforce</b>	<p><b>Establish purpose</b> – Today we will learn about the Accuracy Strategy <b>chunk letters and sounds together.</b></p> <p><b>Create urgency</b> – We need to know how to chunk letters and sounds together because it helps us to figure out how to say a word quickly and accurately; sometimes, looking at a chunk in a word will help us to determine what it means, too. Chunking encourages us to read carefully and pay attention to the groups of letters and sounds in words.</p> <p><b>Explicit teacher modeling</b> – I'd like to share how I chunk letters and sounds together when I read. As a word explorer, I am always looking for smaller words inside longer ones, prefixes, suffixes, consonant blends and more! Let me show you how to do this. I am reading a book called <i>The Incredible Painting of Felix Clousseau</i>. When I share the book with you, you'll discover that his painting is very unique. Listen to the first three sentences of this interesting book: "In Paris, the Royal Palace was holding its Grand Contest of Art. From all over the city, painters came to show their pictures. One of them was an unknown painter named Felix Clousseau." Let me think about the words from the opening of this book—</p>

	<p>hmm...do any of the longer words have smaller ones within them? Yes, I think there are a couple of examples. I see the word <i>painter</i> (and <i>painters, too</i>); the smaller word contained within it is <i>paint</i>. (Write the word on the board and draw a box around the base word and another around the suffix). When I see a word that ends in <i>-er</i>, that suffix can indicate someone who does something—for example, a <i>teacher</i> is someone who teaches and a <i>writer</i> is someone who writes; so, I believe that a <i>painter</i> must be a person who paints. I also see another word with one hidden within it. The word <i>unknown</i> contains the word <i>known</i>. (Write this word on the board as well). I think that the prefix <i>un-</i> means the same as <i>not</i>. So, <i>unknown</i> must mean <i>not known</i> just as the word <i>unfinished</i> means <i>not finished</i>. I suspect that as I keep reading the book, I will find more hidden words and even more surprises about the painter, Felix Clousseau and his work of art. The strategy of <b>Chunk letters and sounds together</b> helps me to read accurately and quickly.</p>
<p><b>Practice</b></p>	<p>Now you will try the strategy <b>chunk letters and sounds together</b>. Take a look at the chart that is labeled “Hidden Words.” Here’s your chance to be a word explorer and find some words that are hiding inside other words. Take a “good fit” book that you have been reading from your book box. This is your challenge. Find a word that has a smaller word inside of it. Write the word on a sticky note along with the title of your book, the page number where you found it, and your name. Explain to your partner how chunking the letters and sounds helps you to say and understand the word better. Then put the sticky note on our chart so that everyone can see your word. When everyone is finished, I will ask some of you to tell about the hidden word you found inside the longer word. Later you can add it to your word collector.</p>
<p><b>Encourage and Plan</b></p>	<p>We just learned and practiced <b>chunk letters and sounds together</b>. Chunking letters and sounds will help you to decode and understand the words you encounter in a text. Analyzing a word by looking for smaller words within it is very helpful. It’s fun, too! Remember that you are a word explorer when you look very closely at all the parts of a word. You can use what you learned about chunking letters and sounds together in words today whenever you read.</p>
<p><b>Common Core Alignment</b></p>	<p>Like most strategies, <b>Chunk Letters and Sounds Together</b>, is applicable to all grade levels. Find the standard that aligns with your grade-level on our <a href="#">CAFE Menu/ CCSS Grade Level Matrix</a>.</p>