



Beginning readers often use a word's beginning sound to help them read the word. When they do this, they sometimes guess a word that does not make sense in the sentence and move on without looking at the rest of the word. To gain accuracy, it is important that children learn to read all the sounds in a word. Applying the accuracy strategy ***Listen Carefully to Sounds*** helps with both accuracy and comprehension, since reading the correct words will enhance the meaning of what is being read.

### HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD WITH THIS STRATEGY AT HOME?

1. When listening to your child read, encourage them to slow down enough to pay attention to the letters and letter combinations in the words they're misreading. Have your child point to the letters and letter combinations to tell you the sound each makes. This reinforces that there is a purpose for the letters that represent the word.
2. Have your child return to the word they just read. Remind them to ask, "Does it look right? Does it sound right? Does it make sense?" to help them identify the word.
3. If necessary, revisit letter sounds, the concept of beginning and end, and reading left to right. Then, when your child stumbles on a word, have them stretch it out, saying the sounds each letter or letter combination represents. After having them focus on each sound, help your child read the word correctly and ask, "Did that make sense?"
4. If your child is still struggling with this strategy, have them write the word out. Slowing down to write the word can help focus their attention on the individual sounds.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AT HOME!