



When teaching children to read, we are always looking for ways to help them decode words efficiently, rapidly, and accurately. This allows them to focus their attention on understanding what they read rather than on the fundamentals of each word. One way we accomplish this is through teaching children to watch for familiar word patterns. Word patterns are groups of letters that when put together form a recognizable sound or word. They can be found at the beginning, middle, or end of a word. Your child is working on the accuracy strategy **Look for Word Parts**. Use the following suggestions to support your child's learning at home.

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

1. When reading with your child, have them look for well-known letter patterns in the words they are reading. These patterns could be prefixes, suffixes, endings, whole words, or base words. For example, your child may look for the pattern *end* in the word *send*, or *air* in the word *chair*.
2. When breaking a word into parts, have your child first read each part separately. Then, have your child put the parts together to make the word. This will train your child to spot word parts quickly and easily.
3. If your child is having difficulty finding word parts, guide them to look for familiar endings and familiar prefixes.
4. Encourage your child to use their fingers to frame the parts found in words, decode those parts first, and then move on to tackle the whole word.
5. To help train your child to look for parts in words, play a game of "I Spy" when reading. For example, when looking at the word *blend*, you would say, "In this word I spy the word *end*." Then, switch roles with your child and let your child "spy" parts in words.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AT HOME!