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What is Consonant Blends

Unlock Reading with Consonant Blends!

DEFINITION

> Consonant blends are groups of two or three consonants that appear together in words. They keep their individual sounds while blending together.

KEY CONCEPTS

Types of Blends

Blends can be at the beginning (like 'bl' in 'black') or end (like 'nd' in 'and').

Initial Blends

Initial blends occur at the start of words, combining sounds like 'st' in 'stop'.

Final Blends

Final blends occur at the end of words, such as 'mp' in 'lamp'.

Digraphs vs. Blends

Digraphs are two letters that make one sound (like 'sh'), while blends keep their sounds.

Importance in Reading

Understanding blends helps improve reading fluency and decoding skills.

EXAMPLES

→ bl, cl, fl in 'blue', 'clap', 'flag'

→ st, tr, sp in 'star', 'tree', 'spoon'

→ nd, mp, lt in 'hand', 'lamp', 'belt'

MEMORY TIPS

★ Think of blends as 'best friends' that stick together but still sound different.

★ Use the phrase 'Blend it like a smoothie!' to remember they mix but keep their flavors.

★ Visualize two consonants holding hands to remember they work together in words.

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ Confusing blends with digraphs, thinking they make one sound.

✗ Omitting one of the consonants when pronouncing blends.

✗ Not recognizing blends in unfamiliar words.

QUICK RECAP

Consonant blends are groups of consonants that keep their sounds together. They can be found at the beginning or end of words and are essential for reading fluency.