



Segmenting Nonsense Words



PICTURE ACTIVITY: The picture and our song today are about a creature called a frookle. The big purple frookle in our song looks different to each child lucky enough to see him. Draw a picture of the frookle YOU see when you sing the “Nonsense Word Blues.” Is he silly? Is he scary?

Note to Parent: Sometimes children pretend to read but are only saying words they have seen before and memorized. It is important for your child to know how to “sound out” a word. When you use a nonsense word to practice, you can be sure your child has never seen it before. Then she can practice sounding it out.

You should have: the music. [\(Here!\)](#)

LESSON:

Say You know the song, “Nonsense Word Blues” from school. I want to learn it today. This song has a story with silly nonsense words. I’ll tell you some of the nonsense words. Repeat them after me.

Frookle (*Child repeats.*)

Stroiper (*Child repeats.*)

Whomples (*Child repeats.*)

Do Repeat if necessary. It may take a few tries for your child to say the words clearly.

Say Now that you know some of the words, let’s learn the song.

Do Turn on the music and listen to it. Then turn it off and go over the words line by line with your child.

Say A big, purple frookle, a frookle came in my room. (*Child repeats.*)
 He broke my stroiper, I cleaned it up with a broom. (*Child repeats.*)
 I got the frookle broke my stroiper, frookle broke my stroiper blues. (*Child repeats.*)
 He found the chocolate whomples, hidden under my bed. (*Child repeats.*)
 He burped and gave me a high five, and then he was fed. (*Child repeats.*)
 I’ve got the frookle broke my stroiper, ate my chocolate whomples high five blues.
 (*Child repeats.*)

Do Now get ready to turn on the music again.

Say Now let’s try singing both verses and chorus with the music. Watch me closely because I’m going to add some hand gestures.

Do Put on the music and sing along. Sit next to your child, not across from her, as you do these actions. If you want, you can act out sweeping with a broom, the high five etc. At the break in the music, you will use your hands to stress the two sounds in these two-sound nonsense words. For example: when the song says fa fa fa.../f/ /a/ hold up your left hand when you say the /f/ sound and put up your right hand when you say the /a/ sound. (Say the /a/ sound as it sounds in cat.)