Picture Card Sentences
Place several picture cards in one of the extra storage pockets. Have students draw a picture card at random from the pocket. Challenge students to use the picture word in a sentence. Have students either place the picture card used in a sentence in a display pocket or in the appropriate blend pocket. You may want to use paper or a writing chart to help students record their sentences and identify the picture words used in the sentences.

Silly Stories
Place several picture cards in the extra storage pocket. Have one student draw a picture card. Have the student use that picture word in a sentence to start a silly story. Have the student then place the card in one of the display pockets. Next, have another student draw a picture card and continue the silly story by using the new picture word in a sentence relating to the previous picture word or words. Challenge students to keep their silly story going!

Check out other related products from Learning Resources!

Alphabet Center (LER 2246) – This pocket chart is a great way to practice letter and sound identification, word building, and spelling. It includes picture cards, uppercase and lowercase letter cards, blank cards, and an activity guide.

Reading Rods® Word Building Kit (LER 7102) – This classroom kit teaches various skills including: building CVCe words using silent “e”, recognizing spelling patterns, learning consonant blend and digraph sounds and usage, and comprehending vowel digraphs, diphthongs, and r-controlled vowels.

Blends Center

The Blends Center pocket chart is a great way to introduce or reinforce letter recognition, letter sounds, beginning word blend sounds, and print awareness with young readers. Use your Blends Center as a fun and interactive resource to supplement your reading and literacy program.

207 letter and picture cards are included with your Blends Center pocket chart.

66 Letter Cards:
Letter cards color-coordinate with pockets on the chart. Vowels are printed in red and consonants are printed in blue.

Red Vowel Cards
a (5) e (5) i (5) o (5) u (5) y (1)

Blue Consonant Cards
b (2) c (2) d (2) f (2) g (2) h (2) j (1) k (2)
l (2) m (2) n (2) p (2) q (1) r (2) s (5) t (2)
v (2) w (2) x (1) y (1) z (1)

20 Blend Cards:
Blend cards also color-coordinate with pockets on the chart. Blends are printed in green.
bl br cl cr dr fl fr gl gr pl
pr sc sl sm sn sp st sw tr

121 Picture Cards:
Picture cards are double-sided showing the picture on one side with the corresponding word printed on the opposite side. Each word begins with a blend that has the blend printed in green. Includes 4 blank cards.
Suggested Activities:

Picture/Blend Match
Place blends to be identified in the clear display pockets located on the top of the chart. Place one or more corresponding picture cards in the extra storage pockets located at the bottom of the chart. Challenge students to draw picture cards out of the extra storage pocket and match them to their corresponding initial blends in the clear display pockets. Students should use the picture words on the back of the cards for assistance.

Building Blends
Place picture cards in the clear display pockets located on the top of the chart. Place letter cards in the extra storage pockets located at the bottom of the chart. Challenge students to take a picture card and then build the blend they hear at the beginning of the picture word. For example:

- dress

  Student must find a d card and an r card.

ABC Order
Place several picture cards in a clear display pocket in scrambled order. Challenge students to order the cards alphabetically. If students need to, they can look at the back of the picture cards or sing the ABC song for assistance.

What Am I?
Use the picture cards list located in this guide to help you play this game. Place all the picture cards in the chart pockets corresponding to their initial blends. Choose a picture card from the card list and give students details describing the object. For example:

- smile

  You can wear this.
  You do this when you are happy.
  When you do this, you can see your teeth.

Have students make guesses by finding the appropriate picture card in the blend pockets and placing it in the clear display pouch. Students should formulate a guess, identify the initial blend of the picture word, and then locate the appropriate blend pocket holding the picture card. Have students read the back of the picture card before placing it in the display pocket, and say and spell the word out loud. "Smile. S-M-I-L-E. Smile."

Picture Word Scramble
Choose a picture card that can also be spelled using the letter cards. Place the picture card in one of the display pockets along with the letter cards that spell the picture word. Scramble the letter cards and challenge students to rearrange the letter cards in order to spell the picture card’s name correctly. Students can use the back of the picture cards for assistance or to check their spelling. You may need to use index cards to make more letter cards.