

# Word Work

\*Note: not all preschoolers under 5 will be ready for this activity. Learn where the children in your group are developmentally to ascertain whether this activity will be appropriate.

**Estimated time:** 20-30 minutes

**Objective:** The children will identify initial, middle and final phonemes of words.  
The children will be introduced to writing skills.

**Materials:** *Wiggle*, magnetic whiteboard or chalkboard, marker or chalk, magnetic letters (just put out letters d, o, g, l, f, r), picture cut outs of a dog, hog, log, fog, and frog

**Vocabulary:** dog, hog, log, fog, frog, sounds like, write

## Procedure:

1. Read *Wiggle* to the children.
2. Flip back in the book where you see the word “dog.” Ask a child to point to the word dog. Give hints if needed.
3. Have the children count with you how many letters are in the word dog.
4. Place a picture of a dog on the board.
5. Draw three horizontal lines on the board, counting out loud as you do so.
6. Say, “I want to write the word dog- /d/ /o/ /g/. What sound do you hear at the beginning of the word?” (children are prompted to say /d/. if they say “D,” then ask for its sound too) “/d/! That’s right! What letter makes the /d/ sound?”
7. Place all the letters on the board, saying their names out loud.
8. Ask a child to find the letter d on the board and put it on the first line. Have the group give the child a thumbs-up.
9. Repeat the above steps until the word “dog” is spelled out.
10. Write the word “dog” with the marker underneath the magnetic letters.
11. Replace the picture of the dog with a hog.
12. Next, tell the children you want to change the word “dog” into “hog.” (emphasize the /h/ sound in hog) Ask them which letter you would have to change.
13. Ask the children what sound h-h-hog begins with. Ask them the letter for that sound.
14. Have a child find that letter and replace the letter D with the letter H. Repeat steps 10 through 12 to create the words log, fog.
15. Tell the children you are going to try and trick them this time. Draw one more line in front of the others to make four spaces. Move the letter F to the first line.
16. Replace the picture of the fog with the picture of a frog.
17. Ask them how to make fog into /fr/ /o/ /g/.
18. Celebrate with the children by reviewing all the new words they now know and then sing a song!

## Extension:

Have the children write the letters in the air or on their leg.

Use other words like hat, sat, mat, cat, bat, and rat.