
Word Joining exercise sheets

In order to join words smoothly when we are talking, we often put in extra sounds, or miss out a sound or part of a sound, or reorganise the syllables. Dyspraxic children may need to be taught how to do this.

How we smooth the joins depends on what the sounds are, at the end of the first word and the beginning of the second. Some words have difficult joins in the middle. These follow the same rules and some are included in the phrase lists that follow.

Your therapist will need to check through the lists with you before you attempt to practise them at home. Remember to keep a normal rhythm.

These are the different ways that words are joined:

- 1. Re-dividing syllables**, when a final consonant is followed by a word beginning with a vowel, e.g..
get a coat → ge ta coat
read a book → rea da book
I can open it → I ca no pe nit
- 2. Using "an"** before a word starting with a vowel, e.g.
eat an orange → eat a norange
hear an owl → hear a nowl
see an insect → see a ninsect
- 3. Join with a "y" sound**, words ending in y/igh/ay/oy/ee, followed by a word beginning with a vowel, e.g.
buy a book → buy ya book
see a cat → see ya cat
play a tune → play ya tune
Sooty is happy → Sooty yis happy
- 4. Join with a "r" sound**, words ending in er/ir/or/ar/ur and aw(!), followed by a vowel, e.g.
before I go → before rI go
I saw a caterpillar → I saw ra caterpillar
- 5. Join with a "w" sound**, words ending in o/oo/ew/ow (like snow or cow) followed by a vowel, e.g.
go inside → go winside
throw a ball → throw wa ball
chew a sweet → chew wa sweet
to Emma → to wEmma
coo-ing → coo-wing