

Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

ESWS Spanish Sort Demo Cards: Beginning Blends and Diphthongs

Congratulations on your purchase of the Really Good Stuff® **ESWS Spanish Sort Demo Cards: Beginning Blends and Diphthongs**, a dynamic tool for bilingual and dual immersion language programs.

This Really Good Stuff® product includes:

- 294 **ESWS Spanish Sort Demo Cards**
- This Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

Blend study and diphthong study involve looking at pairs of letters and the combined sounds they make. Word sorting provides important practice with these challenging spelling patterns.

The *ESWS Spanish Sort Demo Cards* correspond to the sorts in *Essential Spanish Word Sorts*. Use the cards in a pocket chart to model the sorts the students will be doing independently in class work, homework, literacy centers, and fun group or partner activities.

Blends

A blend is two or more consonants combined. You can hear both (or all) consonants in a blend, for example, *p* and *l* in the word *playa*. Blends work just like other beginning consonants.

Diphthongs

A diphthong is two vowels combined in a single syllable. Unlike the consonants in a blend, the vowels are not heard separately in a Spanish diphthong. Together they create a special sound.

In a diphthong, one of the vowels is emphasized and the other vowel is pronounced in a special way. The letter *i* in words such as *cambio* makes a *y* sound as in *yes* and the *u* in words such as *puedo* makes a *w* sound as in *was*.

Diphthong study is the first time students look at spelling patterns within words rather than at the beginning or end. Students who are also becoming literate in English sometimes represent the sounds with their English spellings, for example, *puedo* might be spelled *pwedo*.

How to Demonstrate Word Sorts

It's important to teach the word sorts at an appropriate pace for students at different reading levels. Students at earlier levels, for example, will need more repeated demonstration and practice with the sorts before completing them independently.

Types of Sorts to Demonstrate

- Closed sorts (most word sorting) – teacher directs the sort by giving the categories
- Open sorts – students see patterns and sort words into categories they determine
- Blind sorts – students hear a sort word and point to the appropriate category card
- Picture/word sorts – category and/or sort cards include pictures for added support
- Written sorts – students write sorted words onto a blank grid
- Speed sorts – students complete timed sorts to gain automatic recognition of word features
- Word hunt – sorts include words found in student reading, written on blank cards.

Timeline of Spanish Word Sorting with Examples	
Concepts	Plants, animals; shapes; winter, summer
Beginning sounds	Vowel sounds, consonant sounds
Initial syllables	<i>ma, me, mi</i>
Word families	<i>apa, asa, ana</i>
Beginning blends	<i>pl, pr, fl, fr</i>
Diphthongs	<i>ue, ua, ui</i>
Contrasts	<i>b</i> and <i>v</i> in initial/middle position
Silent h	<i>ha</i> vs. <i>a</i> in beginning position
Soft/hard <i>c</i> and <i>g</i>	<i>ce</i> vs. <i>que</i> ; <i>ge</i> vs. <i>gue</i>
Other Confused spellings	<i>r, rr; n, ñ, ll</i>

All activity guides can be found online:

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Small Group Demonstration

Whenever you introduce a new type of sort, focus on a different word feature, or notice that students need additional modeling, lead a small group demonstration.

A 4-Column Word Sorting Pocket Chart is available for purchase through Really Good Stuff®. Here is one of many possible ways to model a closed word sort:

1. Select two or more categories (such as, *pr*, *fr*, and *br*) and set up a pocket chart in a visible position.
2. Hold up each word card and read the word with the group, offering support as necessary.
3. Select one word card and say the word, such as *prima*. Ask the group if *prima* begins with /*pr*/, /*fr*/ or /*br*/. Repeat the word, placing emphasis on the beginning blend: *prima*. When the correct category is named, place the *pr* category card at the top of the pocket chart and the word *prima* below it.
4. Select another word card, such as *fruta*, and ask the group if *fruta* begins with the consonant blend *pr* as in *prima*, or with *fr* or *br*. When students name the correct category, say the word together, with emphasis on the beginning blend: *fruta*. Place the *fr* category card in the next column of the pocket chart and the word *fruta* below it.

5. Introduce the *br* category using the method described in steps 3 and 4.
6. Continue to sort words by comparing them to the other words in each category. Sort all of the word cards this way.
7. Repeat the sort in the pocket chart, this time asking students to place the sort words in the columns.
8. Reflect on the sort with your group, guiding them toward seeing the beginning blends. Talk about how the words are alike and different, and what challenges the students had.

br	fr	pr
breve	fruta	prima
brisa	frío	precio
bruja	frito	

prueba

prendo

freno

Student Activity

Construct Blend Sentences

1. This is a fun way to play with language, build vocabulary, and, of course, practice beginning blends.
2. As a group, sort several blend categories into columns.
3. Provide a sentence frame, such as **El ____ ayer.** (The ____ yesterday.)
4. Ask for help with filling in two missing words. At least one should have the blend you have been studying. Here are some examples:
El grupo gritó ayer.
La fruta estaba frío ayer.
La clima estaba claro ayer.
5. Once students get the hang of the activity, provide new sentence frames and have them construct blend sentences on their own.

Student Game

Diphthong Bingo

This is an individualized version of Bingo, in which students simply stack any matching Sort Cards on the spaces of their Bingo sheet.

Materials: Category and Sort Cards for categories you want to compare; Sort Bingo Reproducible; timer (optional)

1. Go through the categories by holding up the cards. The student writes the categories, such as *ue*, *ua*, *ui*, *uo*, in the spaces on the Sort Bingo Reproducible. Shuffle the Sort Cards and lay them face down.
2. The student draws a card, says the word, and then places the card on its space on his or her Sort Bingo sheet.
3. As the student draws and sorts more cards, he or she stacks them in the spaces. The student continues sorting this way, setting aside any confusing cards, until all the cards are sorted or until time is up.
4. Discuss any words that challenged the student.
5. The student can practice repeatedly sorting the same cards, using the timer to try to beat his or her own time.

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Variation

Play a traditional classroom version of this Bingo game in which the teacher or one student pulls the cards and holds them up. Students each have their own sort cards from *Essential Spanish Word Sorts* to use in this game. The rounds will go quickly, as there are only six spaces to fill.

Related Products available from Really Good Stuff:

Essential Spanish Word Sorts (item #302734)

4-Column Sorting Pocket Chart (item # 301823)

Essential Spanish Word Sorts Demonstration Cards: Beginning Sounds (item #303197)

Essential Spanish Word Sorts Demonstration Cards: Open Syllables and Rhyming Endings (item #303214)

Essential Spanish Word Sorts Demonstration Cards: Confused Sounds in Spelling and Reading (item #303202)

Answer Key for Beginning Blends and Diphthongs

Beginning Consonant Blends

pl, pr	playa, plaza, pluma, planta, plomo, pleno prender, primo, prisa, pronto, propio, promesa
fl, fr	flor, flan, flaco, flecha, flojo, flota frío, freno, frasco, frito, fruta, frente
cl, cr	clase, clave, clima, claro, clavo, cloro crema, cruzar, crecer, creer, cresta, criar
bl, br	blusa, blanco, blando, bloque, blanca, bloquear brisa, brazo, bravo, broma, brinda, bruja
gl, gr	globo, gloria, glacial, glotón, glucosa, glorioso grano, gris, grave, grito, grande, grupo
pl, fl, cl, bl, gl	playa, plomo, planta, plural, plata flaco, flecha, flan, flujo, flote, flauta clima, claro, clavo, clínica, closet, clásico blusa, blanca, blando, bloque, bledo globo, gloria, glacial, glotón, glorioso
pr, fr, br	prendo, prima, prensa, precio, probar, prueba frío, freno, fronda, fruta, frontera, frito bruja, bravo, breve, brocha, bruto, brisa
cr, tr, gr	cruzar, crecí, creo, cristal, cría, crespo tronco, trozo, trompa, tres, trata, trigo gramo, granja, gripe, grillo, gratis, gris

Diphthongs

ue, ua	pueblo, cueva, nuevo, grueso, huevo, huella cuatro, cuadra, suave, cuaderno, cuanto, cuarto
ui, uo	cuida, ruido, construir, destruir, huir, fui monstruo, cuota, residuo, fatuo, vacuo
ue, ua, ui, uo	hueso, trueno, puedo, sueño, rueda, puerta iguana, cuarenta, agua, chihuahua, actual, guapo cuida, ruido, construir, destruir, huir, fui monstruo, cuota, residuo, fatuo, vacuo
ia, iu	hacia, viaje, historia, gracias, lluvia, diario ciudad, viuda, miura, triunfo, ciudadano
ie, io	viento, siento, invierno, tiempo, fiesta, pie labio, palacio, radio, tibio, cambio, vacío
ia, ie, io, iu	lluvia, comedia, noticia, confiar, hacia bien, nadie, tierra, tiene, pierde, comienzo sabio, vacío, patio, cambio, labios, tibio ciudad, viuda, miura, triunfo
ei, ey, eu	veinte, reina, aceite, afeitarse, treinta, peinarse rey, ley, leyenda deuda, neutro
oi, oy	boina, coincide, androide, oigo hoy, soy, doy, estoy
ai, ay, au	baile, aire, traigo, naípe, paisaje, caigo hay, payaso, rayo, ensayo, ayer auto, causa, aunque, ausente, aplaudir, aurora

BINGO!

