

## Multisyllabic Word Reading Strategy to use in Small Group Instruction

Students are taught an overt strategy first and then taught a more covert strategy that they will use when reading most materials.

The steps of the overt strategy are:

1. Circle the prefixes and suffixes.
2. Underline the vowels in the rest of the word.
3. Say the parts of the word.
4. Say the parts of the word fast.
5. Make it a real word.

To teach the first two steps, provide a review of prefixes and suffixes using the regular or sight word teaching formats. Then, present words that contain those word parts.

Model!

Sample minilesson:

T: Eyes up here please. We have just read the steps of the strategy you are going to learn. It will help you to read longer words. Now, I'm going to model, or show you how to use, this strategy. Look up here and watch me use the strategy.

T: First, I circle word parts or prefixes at the beginning of the word and suffixes at the end of the word.

T: What part?

S: COM.

T: What part?

S: ER

Next, I underline the vowel sounds in the rest of the word. What sound?

S: /a/

T: Next, I say the parts of the word. What parts?

S: com mand er

T: Next, we say the whole word. It must be a real word. What word.

S: COMMANDER.

T: Great, let's read some more words.

Example 2:

T: Is there a word part at the beginning of this word?

S: Yes, "in."

T: Is there a part at the end of the word?

S: Yes, "tion."

T: What vowel sounds in the rest of the word?

S: /e/

T: Say the word by parts.

S: IN VEN TION

T: What word?

S: INVENTION.

T: Great!

### Covert Multisyllabic Word Reading Strategy

You may want to guide your students through this strategy with words they should add to their sight word vocabularies and new multisyllabic words that will appear in a passage they will be reading as part of the lesson. As students become more proficient at using the strategy with guidance, you will want your students to begin to use it independently. Start with having students actually circle word parts and underline the middle vowel sounds. Later, when they are proficient with the overt strategy, teach them to use the strategy covertly by:

1. Looking for beginning and ending word parts and the vowel sounds in the rest of the word.
2. Saying the parts of the word.
3. Saying the parts fast.
4. Making it a real word.

Have students practice using the strategy covertly. Give them short lists of regular multisyllabic words to sound out independently.