

## Sound it Out! Raising Rigor with Sound Walls

**Sound Walls** are visual tools that help students visualize sounds, practice blending and segmenting, and develop phonological awareness.

**Phonemic awareness** is the ability to recognize, blend, segment, and manipulate sounds in spoken words. It's a foundational skill for reading success. When children can manipulate sounds, they can:

- **Decode words more easily**: By breaking words into sounds, they can sound out unfamiliar words.
- Improve spelling: A strong understanding of sounds helps children spell words correctly.
- **Build vocabulary**: Recognizing sounds in words helps children learn new words.
- **Comprehend text better**: Strong phonemic awareness leads to better reading fluency and comprehension.







## **Increasing Rigor with Sound Walls**

- **Isolate Sounds:** Break words into individual sounds.
- **Delete Sounds:** Remove a sound from a word.
- **Substitute Sounds:** Replace a sound with another sound.

## **Tips for Effective Sound Wall Use**

- 1. **Consistent Exposure:** Integrate sound wall activities into daily routines.
- 2. Active Engagement: Encourage hands-on interaction with the sound wall.
- 3. Clear and Consistent Labeling: Ensure clear and consistent labeling.
- 4. **Gradual Release of Responsibility:** Progress from teacher-led to student-led activities.
- 5. **Data-Driven Instruction:** Monitor student progress and adjust instruction accordingly.

Want to learn more about implementing Sound Walls and the Science of Reading? Our on-site training and coaching can help! Schedule a complimentary consultation with our team to discuss your specific needs and explore how Ideal Instruction can support your goals.

Scan here to schedule a chat today!

