



# Story Star Countdown

**Theme: Music and Rhythm**

**Phonics Focus: NG Blends**

**READ: *Sounds of the Band* by Catherine Cotton**

Have your child read aloud to you, reading the words they can while you help with challenging new words. Encourage them to solve unfamiliar words using the patterns they know, as well as use the pictures for more detail. Learning to read is all about building your toolkit of known words and sounds!

**Extension Activity:**

Work through the included activities at your child's pace. They should be challenged, but not frustrated, and these activities do not need to be done in one sitting. Directions are included for each activity. If your child has trouble, that's okay! You can help them, just try not to give them the answer. They should be doing most of the work.

**READ: *Jam, Too?* by Janay Brown-Wood**

Read this book to your child. If able, let them read to you, or take turns. Along the way, talk with your child about what is happening and how they feel about the story. Ask questions like: why do you think the character did that? How would you solve this problem? What is the story trying to teach us? What was your favorite part of the story? All questions are good questions.

**WRITE and DRAW: How would you jam if you were in a band?**

You can use notebook paper or the writing templates provided on our website. As your child writes, let them get their full thought down on paper before you correct anything. This is how they become a writer! As they spell, encourage them to use the rules they know. This is called invented spelling. Even if it doesn't look like what an adult would write, they are still practicing their phonics. Illustrations are always welcome!

bang fang gang hang rang sang slang

Name

ang

b

f

g

h

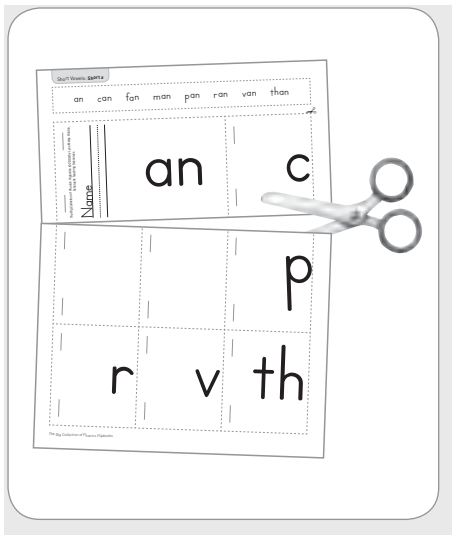
r

s

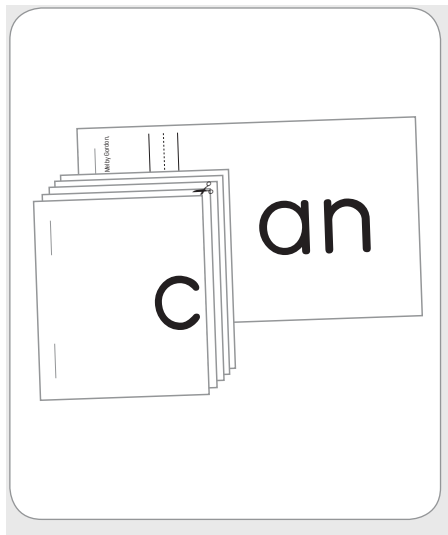
sl

# How to Construct the Flipbook

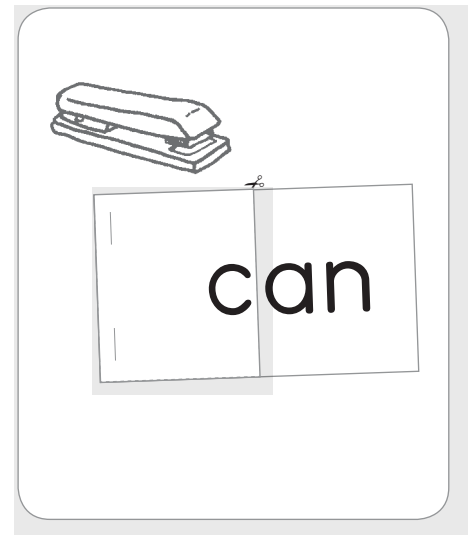
1. Carefully cut apart the flipbook pages.



2. Stack the pages.



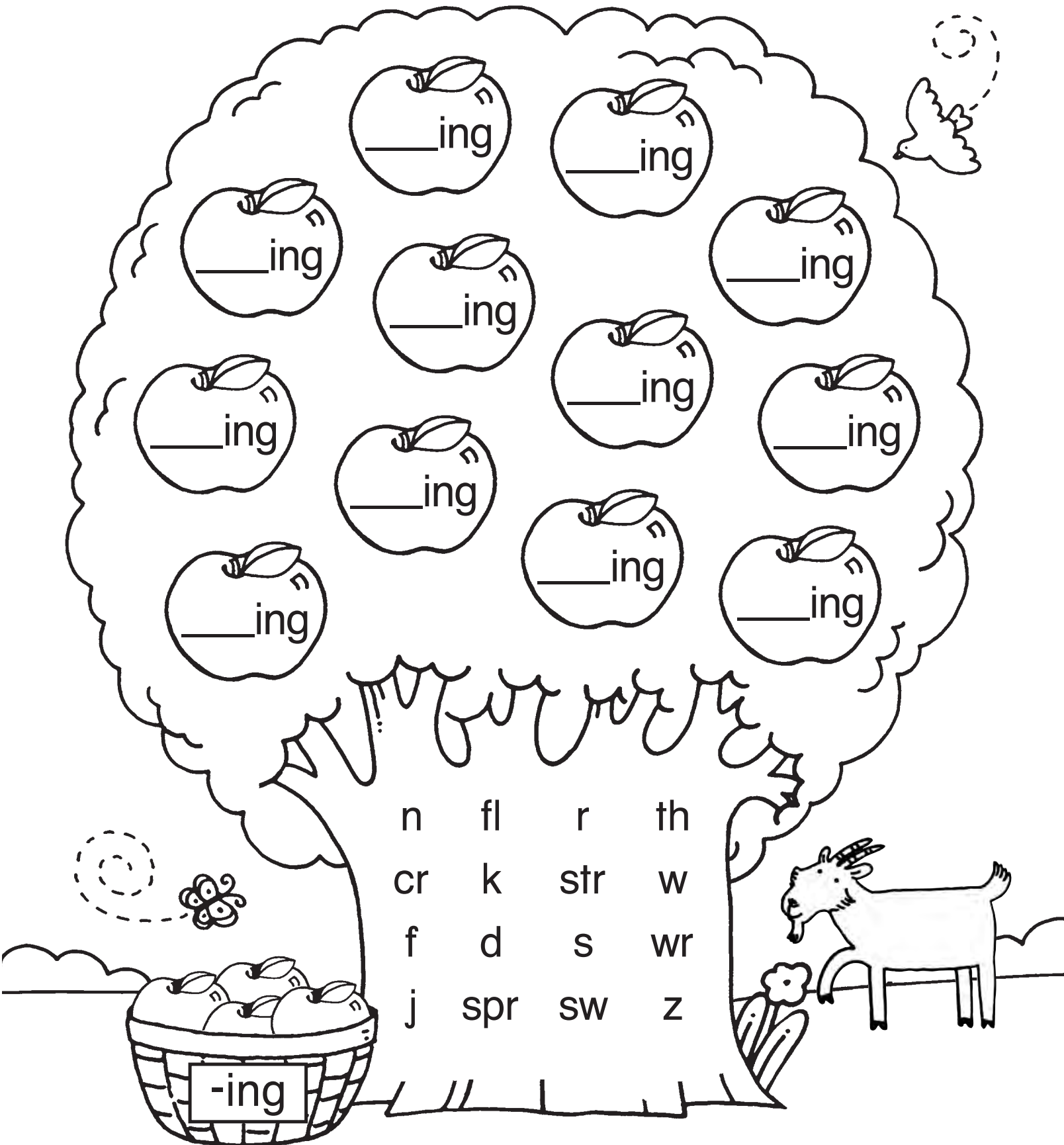
3. Staple the pages together, then read!



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Word Family

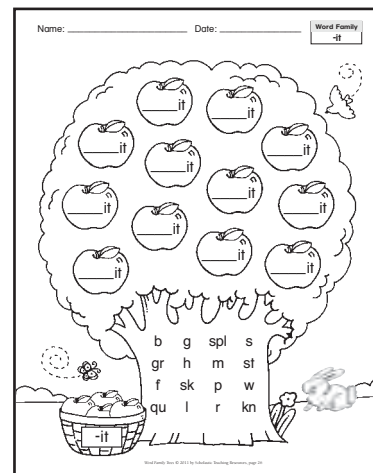
-ing



## How to Use the Word Family Trees

Completing a word family tree is easy and fun. To begin, distribute copies of the activity page for the word family you want to teach. Point out the word family ending on the basket that's under the tree and name it. Then have children do the following:

- 1 Look at the letter and letter combinations on the tree trunk. Sound out each one in front of the word family ending to see if it makes an actual word.
- 2 If the letter(s) make a word, write it on an apple to spell out that word.
- 3 After filling in all the apples, read the words aloud, pointing to each word while saying it.



## Activities to Extend Learning

Use these activities to give children additional opportunities to explore word families.

**Alphabetical Apples:** Write words that belong to a word family on red apple cutouts (one word per apple). Put the cutouts in a learning center. Invite children to put the words in alphabetical order. When finished, challenge them to read the words in sequence as quickly as possible.

**Word Family Memory:** To make game cards for this familiar game, simply write word family words on a supply of apple cutouts (one word per card). Check that each word belongs to a pair. Then invite children to use the cards to play Memory. Each time children find a pair of words that belong to the same word family, they keep the match.

**Musical Word Walk:** Label sheets of paper with words from several different word families, checking that each word belongs to a pair. Arrange the pages word-side down in a looped path. Then have children walk along the outside of the path while music plays. Periodically stop the music, have children pick up the nearest page, and then find another child with a word that belongs to the same that belongs to the same that belongs to the same that belongs to the same word family.

**Word Detectives:** Assign word family endings to individuals or pairs. Then ask children to search the room for objects and words that belong to their word family. Have them write their findings on paper to share with the class.

**Word Families on the Move:** Call out action words that belong to different word families. For instance, you might call out *jump*, *run*, *throw*, *hop*, *slide*, *swim*, *clap*, or *stand*. After saying each word, have children perform the action. Then ask them to name other words belonging to the same word family.

**below is a list of words  
that can be created for each  
word family tree**

**-ing** (page 1)

ding  
king  
ring  
sing  
wing  
zing  
fling  
swing  
thing  
spring  
string  
wring

gong long song tong prong strong

Name

ong

g

l

s

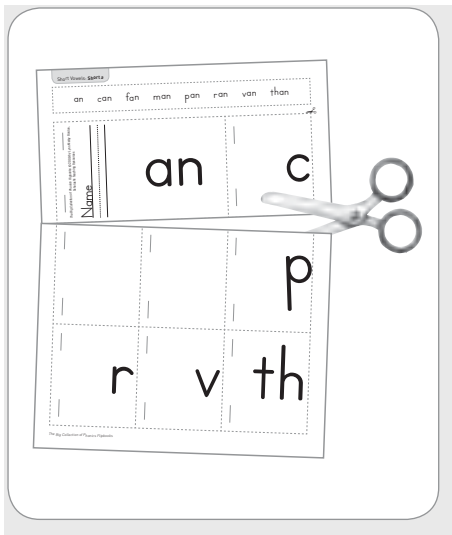
t

pr

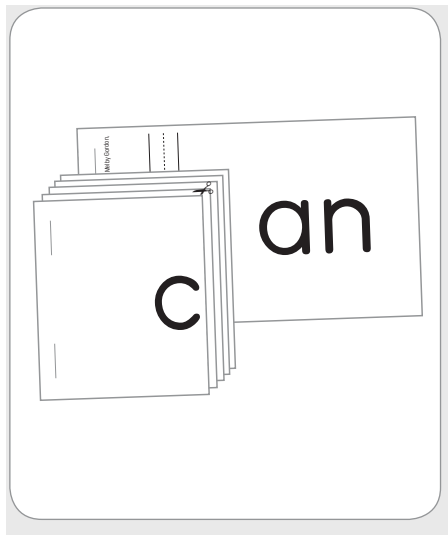
str

# How to Construct the Flipbook

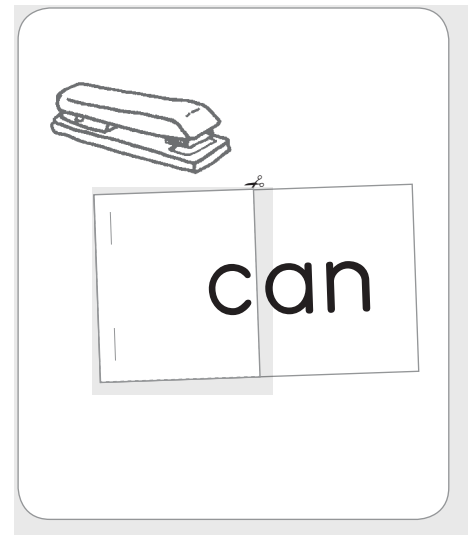
1. Carefully cut apart the flipbook pages.



2. Stack the pages.



3. Staple the pages together, then read!



hung lung sung clung slung sprung strung



Name

ung

h

l

s

cl

sl

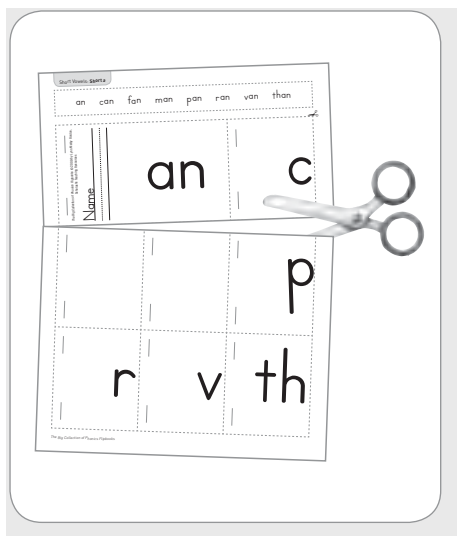
spr

str

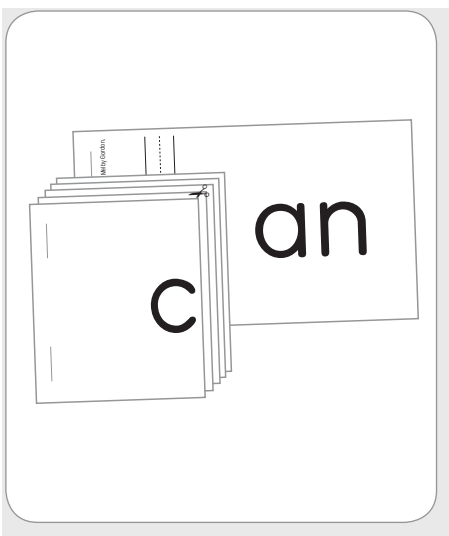


# How to Construct the Flipbook

1. Carefully cut apart the flipbook pages.



2. Stack the pages.



3. Staple the pages together, then read!

