Backing Minimal Pairs

Sounds made at the front of the mouth get replaced by sounds made at the back.



RESOLVES
Not a typical developmental pattern at any age

PAIRS
10

SOUNDS
t, d

Backing is the mirror image of fronting: the child replaces tongue-tip sounds like /t/ and /d/ with back-of-the-tongue sounds like /k/ and /g/. "Tea" comes out as "key," and "Daddy" becomes "Gaggy."

Try this: Minimal pairs still work well, and so does a strong tactile cue for where the tongue goes. A tongue depressor, a lollipop, or the child's own finger touching the ridge behind the top teeth gives them a target to aim at.

/t/ (8 pairs)

TARGET		CHILD SAYS	TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **tea**	>	 key	 **net**	>	 neck
 **tap**	>	 cap	 **bite**	>	 bike
 **tub**	>	 cub	 **Pete**	>	 peek
 **bat**	>	 back	 **dot**	>	 dock

/d/ (2 pairs)

TARGET		CHILD SAYS	TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **mud**	>	 mug	 **Ed**	>	 egg

* not a real word - written the way a child would say it