Final Consonant Deletion Minimal Pairs



The last consonant of a word gets left off entirely.

RESOLVES	PAIRS	SOUNDS
By 3;3	27	All final consonants

Very early words tend to be open syllables - ma, da, ba. Consonants at the ends of words come later, because the child has to plan a closing gesture after the vowel is already running. Until that planning is in place, the ending simply falls off.

Try this: Final sounds are quiet, so make the ending the loud part. Say the word slowly and hold the last sound - "buh-kuh, book" - and let the child feel the puff of air on their hand. Two taps on the table helps as well: one for the start, one for the end, so the last sound has somewhere to land.

/t/ (4 pairs)

TARGET		CHILD SAYS	TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **boat**	>	 bow	 **seat**	>	 sea
 **plate**	>	 play	 **hat**	>	ha *

/d/ (2 pairs)

TARGET		CHILD SAYS	TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **bead**	>	 bee	 **toad**	>	 toe

/z/ (9 pairs)

TARGET		CHILD SAYS	TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **peas**	>	 pea	 **bees**	>	 bee
 **knees**	>	 knee	 **pies**	>	 pie
 **toes**	>	 toe	 **cars**	>	 car
 **shoes**	>	 shoe	 **keys**	>	 key

TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **rose**	>	 row

/p/ (3 pairs)

TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **rope**	>	 row
 **pipe**	>	 pie

TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **cup**	>	cuh *

/n/ (2 pairs)

TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **train**	>	 tray

TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **bone**	>	 bow

/k/ (4 pairs)

TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **beak**	>	 bee
 **cake**	>	cay *

TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **book**	>	boo *
 **duck**	>	duh *

/g/ (1 pair)

TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **dog**	>	daw *

/sh/ (1 pair)

TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **fish**	>	fi *

/l/ (1 pair)

TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **ball**	>	baw *

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