Vowelization Minimal Pairs

Vocalic /r/ and syllabic /l/ collapse into plain vowels.



RESOLVES
Vowelization of /l/ by 6;0 · Vowelization of /r/ by 7;0

PAIRS
17

SOUNDS
vocalic r (er, ar, or, air, ear, ire), syllabic l

When /r/ or /l/ sits at the end of a syllable with no vowel after it, it has to carry the whole syllable itself. That is hard. Vowelization is what happens when the child gives up the consonant work and just leaves the vowel behind - "flower" becomes "flowuh," "bottle" becomes "bottoo."

Try this: For /l/, the tongue tip has to actually touch behind the top teeth and stay there. Have the child say "ball" and hold the ending for three full seconds with the tongue glued up. For /r/, work from a word the child already says correctly and build outward.

/r/ (9 pairs)

TARGET		CHILD SAYS	TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **girl**	>	 gull	 **star**	>	stah *
 **tire**	>	 tie	 **deer**	>	dee-uh *
 **hair**	>	 hay	 **chair**	>	chay-uh *
 **car**	>	cah *	 **fire**	>	fiy-uh *
 **four**	>	faw *			

/l/ (8 pairs)

TARGET		CHILD SAYS	TARGET		CHILD SAYS
 **bowl**	>	 bow	 **roll**	>	 row
 **hole**	>	 hoe	 **apple**	>	appo *
 **mole**	>	 mow	 **bottle**	>	bottoo *

TARGET		CHILD SAYS	TARGET		CHILD SAYS
	**turtle**	> turtoo *		**pencil**	> pencio *

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