SN Blend Word List

Hold a long /s/ with the tongue tip up, then keep the tongue exactly where it is and let the voice turn on through the nose for /n/.



SOUND
/sn/

TYPICAL AGE
By age 5-7

TYPE
Voiceless Fricative + nasal cluster

PRACTICE TIP

The tongue does not move at all between /s/ and /n/ - only the voice and the airflow change. Say that out loud to the child; it helps.

SN does not occur often in the middle or at the end of English words, so this page practices it at the beginning.

Initial Position (18 words)

The sound is at the beginning of the word.


snake


snow


snack


sneeze


snail


sniff


snore


snout

These and 7 more pictured words are in the SN Blend picture cards.

1 Syllable

12 words

snake	sneeze	sniff	snout
snow	snail	snore	snip
snack	snap	snug	sneak

2 Syllables

6 words

snowman	snowflake	snorkel
sneaker	snowball	snuggle

Generalization

Word lists get a sound into a child's mouth. Generalization is what gets it into their life. These are activities where the target words come up on their own, so nobody has to be talked into practicing.

Play-based ideas for young children

Snack time

Real or pretend snacks. Name each one as you share it out - "snack", "snap", "more".

Words that come up: snack, snake, sniff, sneeze, snap, more, please, eat, yum, again, my turn, open, all gone, want

Snake play

A toy snake that slithers, hides and sneaks up on things.

Words that come up: snake, sneak, sniff, snap, snuggle, again, more, hide, slow, fast, look, my turn, where, boo

Snowy day play

Real snow, cotton wool or shaving foam. Build and squash.

Words that come up: snow, snowman, snowball, sniff, sneeze, again, more, cold, big, build, my turn, look, wet, done

Conversation and verbal games for older kids

Snapshot of the week

Describe a week in five snapshots.

Sneak preview

Describe a film or a book without spoilers.