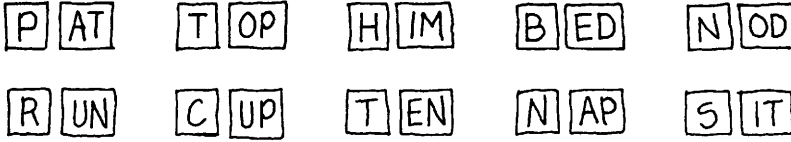


# W

WORDS IN A BAG gave Emily lots of practice sounding out words. We played this game many times over many weeks, and Emily never got bored. Your child might like this game as much as Emily did. If he does, you have a lot of WORDS IN A BAG to look forward to.

The game was easy to make. I cut ten index cards in half. On these twenty cards, I wrote ten segmented words.



After I wrote the words, I separated the word beginnings from the word endings. Then Emily and I went through both piles of cards, the beginnings pile and the endings pile, making sure she could read the sounds. I helped her with any sound that gave her trouble. Now we were ready to play. I put the beginnings in one bag, the endings in another, and gave both bags to Emily. She shook them up well, slipped her hand into the first bag, and

pulled out **B**. She put her hand into the second bag and came

up with **UN**. I asked her to read the cards separately. Then

I told her to fit the sounds together. BUN—Emily had picked a real word. She kept BUN on the table in front of her. Next I put my

hand into each bag. I pulled out **N** **EN**. I read the individual

cards aloud. Then I blended the sounds together. I wasn't as lucky as Emily. NEN isn't a word. I put NEN in front of me on the table. Emily took her second grab in the bag. She came out with

# WORDS IN A BAG

## MATERIALS

two bags  
index cards  
scissors  
pen

R IM —another real word.

We continued picking until the bags were empty. When the final cards were on the table Emily had

B UN R IM C AT T OD N ED

While I had

N EN H OP P AP S IT T UP

Emily had picked four real words. (I let her use the proper name *Ned* as a word.) I had picked three real words. Actually I had to check *pap* in the dictionary because I wasn't sure if it was a real word. It is: *pap* is a soft food for babies. I didn't mind doing this extra work because it gave Emily living proof of how useful a dictionary can be. Our main concern, however, was the final tally—Emily 4, Peggy 3. Emily was the winner. In an effort to even the score, I suggested we play again. Emily was quick to agree. After all, she'd beaten me at my own game. Also, she'd found it easy to sound out bag words. With her confidence at a peak, we put the word segments back in the bags and started picking all over again. We could have used the same twenty cards time after time and still discovered new words. But there are good reasons to switch cards occasionally. Switching cards gave Emily a chance to work with new and different sounds. And once Emily was comfortable with three-letter words, I could throw some words with four letters into the bags. Here are six different WORDS IN A BAG games ready for you to copy.

C	A	B	G	E	M	B	I	G
J	O	B	H	U	M	S	A	D
K	E	G	H	I	M	H	O	T
			R	U	B			

R	A	M	F	O	G	D	I	G
B	E	D	J	U	G	R	O	B
H	I	D	B	A	G	P	U	P
			S	E	T			

S	K	I	P	F	L	A	G	D	I	M
C	R	O	P	S	C	A	T	J	U	G
D	R	O	P	S	T	O	P	M	A	D
			G	L	A	D				

P	L	U	G	C	L	A	P	T	R	I	P
S	L	E	D	S	P	O	T	H	O	P	
C	L	A	M	S	T	O	P	B	U	N	
			K	I	T						

P	A	N	R	O	D	S	L	I	P
P	E	G	B	U	N	D	R	O	P
H	I	D	B	A	D	D	R	U	M
			R	E	D				

G	R	I	N	T	R	I	M	V	A	N
C	L	A	P	S	K	I	T	W	A	Y
P	R	O	P	D	R	I	P	Y	E	T
			S	L	I	M				