

## Onset and rime

After mastering syllables, children need to understand that words can be broken into even smaller parts called onset and rime (not rhyme as in **cat** and **hat**). The onset of a word is the first full sound before the vowel. The rime is the rest of the word.

**Example** “sat” the /s/ sound is the onset and the /at/ sound is the rime. We only use single syllable words when teaching onset/rime.

Word	Onset	Rime
cat	/c/	/at/
met	/m/	/et/
smell	/sm/	ell=/el/
smack	/sm/	ack =/ak/

**Important to note:** This is a tricky concept and parents should talk to the teacher before trying to do onset/rime at home. You do not want to confuse your child.