

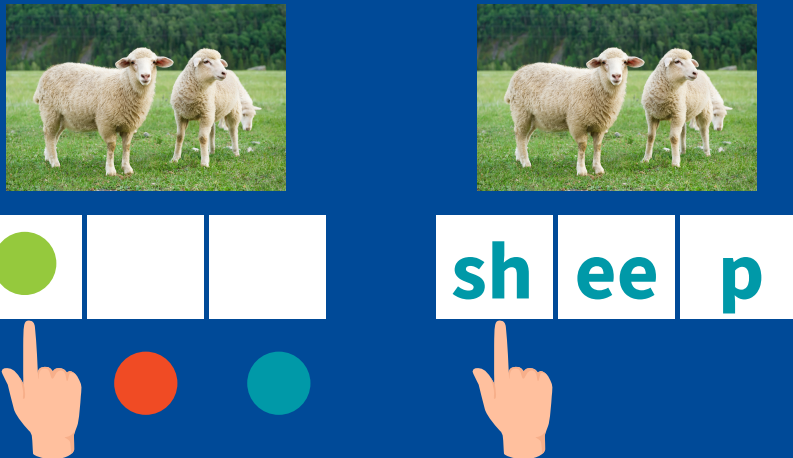
Elkonin Sound Boxes

How to use Elkonin boxes

1. Pronounce the target word slowly, stretching out the sounds.
2. Ask the child to repeat the word.
3. Draw boxes or squares on a piece of paper, chalkboard, or dry-erase board with one box for each phoneme (or syllable).
4. Have the child count the number of phonemes in the word, not necessarily the same number of letters. For example, 'wish' has three phonemes and will use three boxes. /w/, /i/, /sh/
5. Direct the child to slide one colored circle, Unifix cube, or corresponding letter(s) in each cell of the sound boxes, as they blend the entire word.

The example below shows an Elkonin box for the word sheep, which consists of three phonemes (sounds): /sh/ /ē/ /p/

/sh/ /ē/ /p/ /sh/ /ē/ /p/



The diagram illustrates the Elkonin box for the word 'sheep'. It shows two examples of how the word is broken down into three phonemes: /sh/, /ē/, and /p/. The first example shows three empty boxes with a green circle, a red circle, and a blue circle below them, indicating the placement of the phonemes. The second example shows the same three boxes filled with the letters 'sh', 'ee', and 'p' respectively, with a hand pointing to the first box.

(<https://www.readingrockets.org/classroom/classroom-strategies/elkonin-boxes>)