

# Elkonin Boxes: Hearing and Recording Sounds



## Beginning, Middle or End?

### What:

Elkonin boxes for isolating and recording sounds during a 3-5 minute activity. Use one-on-one or in small skill groups.

### Why?

Use the attached worksheet to provide practice for students who are having difficulty hearing and locating sounds in words, particularly short vowel sounds and blends. Assessment results are indicating a need for this type of activity for at-risk students.

### How?

Example: Say a word (cat) and/or show the student(s) a matching picture. Ask the students to repeat the word, stretching it out "like a rubber band." Prompt: "Where do you hear the short a sound, at the beginning, middle, or end of the word?" Students then record the letter "a" in the appropriate box.

If a child shows a weakness for most or all short-vowel sounds, it would be more beneficial to "over teach" one particular sound per activity, rather than mix them up. Focus on one sound only.