

## Word Master

### **What is "Word Master" and why is it important?**

"Word Master" is a strategy that helps your child practice identifying words by scanning unknown words for common spelling patterns. The sounds of spelling patterns usually remain stable and therefore are easier to remember than individual vowel sounds that can change in different words.

### **How can I use "Word Master" with my child?**

You can use "Word Master" to practice reading words with specific spelling patterns that have been introduced in the "Glass Analysis" strategy. You can also begin with one-syllable words from "Word Master" lists that contain a specific spelling pattern. "Word Master" lists generally contain more difficult, "challenge" words.

Talk with your child about the sound that the spelling pattern makes, for example, "ain." Cover letters in the word that are not included in the spelling pattern with your finger. For example you would cover the /p/ in "pain." This would leave the pattern "ain." Have your child say the spelling pattern sound. Now, cover the spelling pattern "ain" and uncover the /p/. Have your child say the letter sound /p/. Then have your child say the letter sound /p/ again; then the spelling pattern sound /ain/. Finally have him blend the sounds together /p/ - /ain/ - pain.

Your child can continue practicing the strategy while reading "Structured Language Experience Stories" containing a specific spelling pattern. Note: "Word Master" lists can be found on the ThinkingWorks web site ([www.getthinkingworks.com](http://www.getthinkingworks.com)).