

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE**

To distinguish the correct medial sound in given words and match these words to a second word with the same medial sound.

**CURRICULUM LINKS**

NLS: Y1, T2, Word level 1.

# Match the middles

## What you need

The 'Match the middles' photocopiable sheet on page 29; pencils.

## What to do

- Make one photocopy of the 'Match the middles' sheet for each child.
- Show the sheets to the children and go through each of the pictures to ensure that the children know what these represent: bed; cup; cap; box; pig; cake; bike; sweet; cloud; coat; book; moon; sun; leaf; light; spoon; bone; grapes; foot; cat; log; pen; bin; mouse.
- Now ask the children to look at the first picture on the left hand side of the page and to tell you again what it is. Say, *Listen very carefully to the sound in the middle of the word 'bed'. Can you tell me what that sound is?*
- Encourage the children to look at all the pictures on the right side of the page and try to name one with the same middle sound as the word bed. Remind them that they are looking for something that has an *e* sound in the middle, just like *bed*.
- When the children have found the picture of the pen, say *That's right. The words 'bed' and 'pen' both have an 'e' sound in the middle. Write a number 1 in the little square by the pen to match the number 1 by the picture of the bed.*
- Now invite the children to work through the sheet, one picture at a time, reminding them to say the cue word to themselves and listen for the middle sound before they look for the picture with the matching middle sound. Make sure that they understand that they should then write a matching number in the corner of their chosen square.

## Differentiation

With younger children, work through the sheet together, helping them to extract the middle sound from the cue words and offering a choice of two pictures from the right of the page from which to select the correct one. At the end of the activity, go through the cue words again, challenging older children to think of one more word each time which contains the same medial sound.

See also: Missing middle (p54).

