



Teaching the concept of “beginning, middle, and end”

Say: We are going to be working with sounds in words. In order to do that, I am going to teach you what the words 'beginning,' 'middle,' and 'end' mean. (Hold up the card and show the picture of the three students waiting in line for the bus.)

Say: Look at these three students. What do you think they are doing?

Say: (Point to the boy at the front of the line.) This is the first student in line. He is at the beginning of the line. Can you think of a time when you were first or at the front of the line? That means you were at the beginning! When someone or something is at the beginning, it comes first.

Say: (Point to the girl at the end of the line.) Look at this student. She is last in line, which means she comes at the end. When someone or something is last, it means it comes at the end. Can you think of a time when you were at the end of the line, or when something came at the end?

Say: (Point to the girl in the middle.) Now, look at this student. She comes between the beginning and the end. This means she is in the middle. She is not first, she is not last, she is in the middle. When someone or something comes between two or more things, that means it is in the middle. Can you think of a time when you were in the middle?

Say: We are going to be talking about sounds that come at the beginning, middle, and end of words. For example, if I say the word 'bus,' /b/.../u/.../s/, the first sound in 'bus' is /b/, so that means /b/ comes at the beginning. I hear the sound /s/ at the end of the word 'bus,' and the middle sound I hear is /u/.

Say: Your turn. What sound do you hear at the beginning of the word 'sit,' /s/.../i/.../t/? ...What sound do you hear at the end of the word 'sit'? ...What sound do you hear in the middle of the word 'sit'?