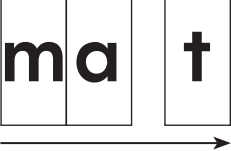## Instructional Routine 2:

Sound-by-Sound Blending

Purpose: Use this routine to teach children a strategy for decoding unfamiliar decodable words using the English sound/spelling system.

1	• Write or display the **Letter Card(s)** for the first sound in the word.	**m**
2	• Point to the letter(s) as you say the sound, and have children repeat it with you.	**Listen: /m/.** **Now you say it.** */m/*
3	• Write or display the **Letter Card** for the next sound in the word and repeat the procedure.	**Listen: /ă/.** **Now you say it.** */ă/* **m a**
4	• Sweep your hand below the letters, and blend the sounds. • Have children blend the sounds with you.	**Blend the two sounds together.** **Listen: /m/ /ă/.** **Now you say it.** */m/ /ă/* **ma**
5	• Repeat the process for the remaining sounds, one at a time.	**Listen: /t/.** **Now you say it.** */t/* **ma t**
6	• Model reading the entire word. Sweep your hand below the letters, and blend the sounds. • Have children blend the sounds to read the word.	**Blend all of the sounds together. Listen:** **/m/ /ă/ /t/*, mat*.** **Now you say it.** */m/ /ă/ /t/, māt* **ma t**
7	• Ask children to tell if the target word sounds like a real word. • Have them use the word in a sentence.	**Does *mat* sound like a word you know?** *Yes.* **Now use the word *mat* in a sentence.** *Possible response: I wipe my feet on the mat.*