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Sincerely,
Karen Haag

Hot Spot and Dot

Adapted from Dr. Wendy Cheyney's work presented to CMS Literacy Facilitators, updated Jan 2012
By Karen Haag at www.liketoread.com

Use **Hot Spot and Dot** to figure out multi-syllable words that are unfamiliar. In order to use this strategy, the student must know the difference between a long vowel (or say-its-own-name vowel) and a short vowel sound (or say-its-other-sound vowel).

Students divide multi-syllable words using these steps:

1. Spot the vowels.
2. Dot the vowels.
3. Connect the dots.
4. Divide the word into parts. (Doesn't necessarily match syllable rules.)
5. Figure out the vowel sounds. (Remember, if the rules don't work, try another sound.)

2-Consonant Rule If there are 2 consonants, divide between them:

but ter Say the u's other sound - not its name because of the closed syllable.

1-Consonant Rule If there is 1 consonant, divide after the vowel.

ta ken Say the a's name because of the open syllable.

EXCEPTIONS...

The Bossy /r/ If there is an /r/ after the vowel - keep the /r/ with the vowel and say the r-controlled vowel sound.

fur long The u now has a new sound: /ur/

The /le/ Rule The /le/ grabs the consonant with before it.

ta ble

Suffixes and Prefixes Rule Suffixes and prefixes should be taken off immediately. Then work with the rest of the word.

mis represent ed

Can you figure out these words?

contemporary subterfuge halberd percolator superstition vassalage