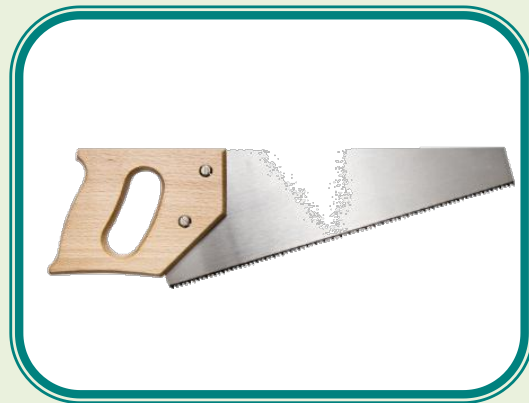
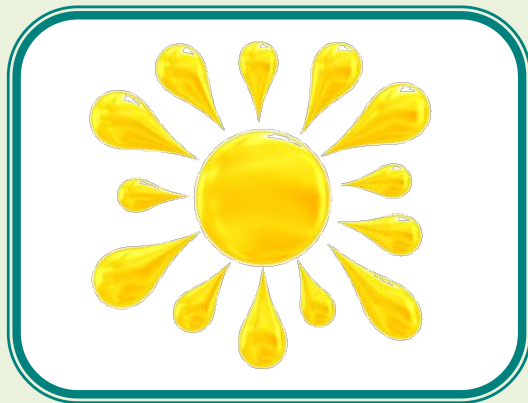
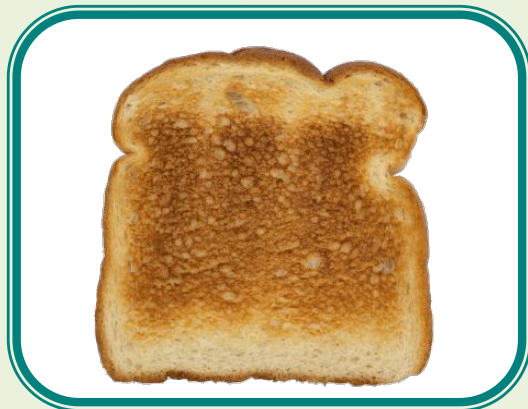


# Does this start with "t" or "ssss"?



This is a game to help children to listen for the beginnings of words. Many children say "t" for "s" ... in other words they pronounce "sea" and "tea" as "tea" and say "teatide" for "seaside"



## Does this start with "t" or "ssss"?



### What is this game for?

**Phonological awareness** means a child being aware of the structure of a spoken word. It includes the ability to listen to and distinguish the building blocks of speech, and is a skill that is crucial for the development of reading and spelling. Phonological awareness is an important and reliable predictor of later reading ability and has therefore been the focus of much research.

Phonological awareness is often confused with phonics, but it is different. Phonological awareness relates **ONLY** to speech sounds, **NOT** to alphabet letters or spelling.

It involves:

- Tuning into sounds
- Knowing that sounds are the building blocks of words
- Being able to understand and talk about the structure of words
- Being able to break words down – compound words, identifying syllables, recognising rhyme, and finally recognising phonemes/sounds

This is a game to help children to listen for the beginnings of words. A common problem for children is to muddle up "t" and "s"... in other words they say "teatide" for seaside and "tand" for sand.

A first step in correcting this difficulty would be to help the child to listen for words that start with "ssss" and to contrast it with words that start with "t".

### What to do

1. Cut out all the pictures along the black lines
2. Take the picture of the **snake** and **tap**
3. **These are used to represent the sound "ssss" (mime taking a picture and making a sss sound) and "t" sound (the tap dripping)**
4. Place these cards on the table in front of the child
5. Place the other pictures in a pile.
6. The child is then encouraged to sort the pictures into the right piles, according to the sound it starts with - k or t

### Words used

*Tickets, toe, tie, toffee, toast, tart towel, Sun, saw, soap, scissors, sack, sock, sand, sausage*