

# SNAKE'S SNACK HUNT

When a child is finding a particular sound tricky to say, hearing and seeing that sound often, without being asked to say it right away is a really important first step. This is called auditory bombardment.

Instead of focussing on getting them to say the sound right away, it's important to model the sound in words and point it out during everyday talking.

This approach:

- Helps the child recognise and understand the sound first and how it fits into words.
- Shows them how to make the sound without pressure.
- Builds confidence and reduces frustration.



## EQUIPMENT

You will need:

Small toy "snacks" or picture cards with /s/ words (e.g., sock, sun, snake, sandwich, star, soap)

A toy snake (or a sock to use as your snake)

A small basket or box

## OTHER WAYS TO PLAY

Spot the /s/ Sound Scavenger Hunt

- Go on a hunt to find things with the /s/ sound. Walk around the room or house spotting things with /s/:
- "Socks", "Spoon", "Sink", "Sandals"
- Each time, say the word with clear /s/ sound: "Sssssock, that starts with /s/. You can also do this in the car or out shopping at the supermarket.

Sneaky Snake Says... (Like Simon says)

- The snake gives silly commands using /s/ words:
- "Sneaky Snake says ssssit, sssspin, sssslither."
- "Emphasise the /s/ each time."

## HOW TO PLAY

This game is for 'ssssss', but you can change your animal to something that begins with your target sound. For example a bear for /b/, a caterpillar for /k/

ell your child: "The snake is very hungry and wants to find some snacks that start with the /s/ sound."

Hide the Snacks: Place the toy snacks items or cards around the room.

Hunt for Snacks: Take turns with your child finding the snacks. Every time you find one, say the word clearly with emphasis on the /s/ sound: "Look, a sock! Sssssock"

Give the Snack to the Snake: Remember it only wants things with a /s/ sound so you can always have some items that it will not want. You can either feed the snake (if you are using a sock or puppet) or put the snack into the basket for later.

Encourage Your Child to try the ssss on its own or to try the word only if you think they are able to.