



Helping Your Student Carry Over: /r/, /r/-blends, /l/, and /l/-blends

Your child has made great progress in speech therapy—now it's time to practice using those sounds outside of sessions! This guide includes fun, easy ways to help your student use their target sounds in real-life conversations and activities.

Target Sounds

We're focusing on:

- /r/ – as in *red, car, bird*
- /r/-blends – as in *brick, green, train*
- /l/ – as in *light, ball, yellow*
- /l/-blends – as in *blue, glad, fly*

General Tips for Practice

- Practice a few minutes a day—frequent small bursts are better than long sessions.
- Focus on one or two sounds per day to avoid overwhelm.
- Praise your child for trying, not only for correct productions
- Make it fun—let them help choose the activity!

Home Practice Activities

1. Reading Aloud with a Twist

- Choose a book, article, or graphic novel with lots of /r/ and /l/ sounds.
- Highlight or underline words with target sounds before reading.
- Pause if needed to repeat tricky words.

Example: “Look at that crazy rollercoaster in the comic!”

2. Sound Hunt Challenge

Find words with /r/, /r/-blends, /l/, or /l/-blends in:

- TV shows or YouTube videos (pause and repeat key lines)
- Food labels (*granola, broccoli, cream*)
- Around the house (objects like *remote, lamp, glass*)

Make a tally chart and see how many they can find!

3. Record and Reflect

- Have your child record themselves talking about a favorite topic (e.g., sports, music, video games).
- Listen together and pick 2–3 words to practice again with correct sounds.

Try: “Tell me about the last level you beat in that game.”

4. Role-Play and Skits

Act out silly scenes or make a commercial for a fake product using lots of target sounds.

Example skit: A superhero with a name like *Captain Cruncher* or *Lightning Larry* goes on an adventure.

5. Board Games with a Speech Twist

Play family games like *Guess Who*, *20 Questions*, or *Charades*. Add rules like:

- Use a sentence with an /r/-blend for each guess.
- Say a silly sentence using three /l/ words after every turn.

Example: “I think it’s Larry because he loves lollipops!”

6. School Practice

Encourage carryover in:

- Oral presentations (practice at home first)
- Book reports
- Class discussions

Tip: Consider a quick check-in with the teacher to help reinforce sound use during class time.

17 Sample Weekly Plan (Rotating Sounds)

Day	Activity	Focus Sound	Example Words
Monday	Read out loud from a graphic novel	/r/	run, river, roar
Tuesday	Record a 1-minute story	/r/-blends	brick, green, tree
Wednesday	Sound hunt around the house	/l/	lamp, ball, yellow
Thursday	Play 20 Questions with speech rules	/l/-blends	blue, clock, glass
Friday	Create a skit or commercial	Mix /r/ and /l/	roller, bright, fly, balloon

Encouragement Goes a Long Way!

- Use positive feedback like:
 - “Great job using that clear /r/!”
 - “I heard that /l/ blend—awesome work!”
- If they make an error, try:
 - “Let’s try that word again together—‘green,’ not ‘geen’.”

Questions or Concerns?

If your child seems stuck on a particular sound or gets frustrated, your speech-language pathologist can help tweak practice strategies or give extra tips.



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