

Backing Minimal Pairs

Sounds made at the front of the mouth get replaced by sounds made at the back.

RESOLVES

Not a typical developmental pattern at any age

PAIRS

9

SOUNDS

t, d

Backing is the mirror image of fronting: the child replaces tongue-tip sounds like /t/ and /d/ with back-of-the-tongue sounds like /k/ and /g/. "Tea" comes out as "key," and "Daddy" becomes "Gaggy."

Try this: Minimal pairs still work well, and so does a strong tactile cue for where the tongue goes. A tongue depressor, a lollipop, or the child's own finger touching the ridge behind the top teeth gives them a target to aim at.

/t/ (7 pairs)

TARGET

tea

tap

tub

bat

CHILD SAYS

> key

> cap

> cub

> back

TARGET

boot

Pete

dot

CHILD SAYS

> book

> peek

> dock

/d/ (2 pairs)

TARGET

mud

CHILD SAYS

> mug

TARGET

Ed

CHILD SAYS

> egg

* not a real word - written the way a child would say it