

Final Devoicing Minimal Pairs

A voiced consonant at the end of a word loses its voice.

RESOLVES

By 3;0

PAIRS

10

SOUNDS

b, d, g, v, z, j

The mirror image of prevocalic voicing. At the end of a word the voice box has to keep running a moment longer than feels natural, and children often shut it off early. The tongue and lips land in exactly the right place; only the buzz is missing, so "dog" comes out as "dock."

Try this: Stretch the ending and keep the voice on. Say "bedddddd" and hold it. A hand on the throat works here too - the buzz should still be going when the word ends. Contrasting pairs like "bed" and "bet" side by side makes the target obvious.

/d/ (1 pairs)

TARGET

seed

CHILD SAYS

> seat

TARGET

CHILD SAYS

/g/ (4 pairs)

TARGET

bag

pig

CHILD SAYS

> back

> pick

TARGET

dog

log

CHILD SAYS

> dock

> lock

/b/ (3 pairs)

TARGET

cab

robe

CHILD SAYS

> cap

> rope

TARGET

cub

CHILD SAYS

> cup

/z/ (1 pairs)

TARGET

eyes

CHILD SAYS

> ice

TARGET

CHILD SAYS

/th/ (1 pairs)

TARGET

bathe

CHILD SAYS

> bath

TARGET

CHILD SAYS

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