Name _____ Date _____

Cluster Reduction Minimal Pairs

Minimal pairs for children who drop one of two sounds at the start.

The pairs in this set (two sounds together: sn, tr, br, st)

no – snow	**tea – tree**
bed – bread	**top – stop**
nail – snail	

Who it is for

Children who say "no" for "snow" or "tea" for "tree".
Young children often simplify these sounds while they learn to talk.

Before you start

If it happens a lot or you are worried, see a speech-language pathologist.
Quiet sounds like s are easy to miss. Check hearing after ear infections.
Use these names: "no" for the head shake, "snow" for the snowflake,
"tea" for the cup and "stop" for the sign. Say them together on page 1.
"Twee" for "tree" still counts here: the child said two sounds.

How to practice

5 to 10 minutes a day is better than a long session once a week.
Go in order: listen, then say words, then sentences. Many tries count.
Respond to what you HEAR, not what you know the child meant.
This is practice, not a test, and it cannot diagnose a speech problem.