

Eliciting Correct Production of /k/ and /g/ Sounds

k, g

These sounds are made by humping up the tongue in the back and quickly tapping the tongue on the roof of the mouth. The difference between /k/ and /g/ is that /k/ is unvoiced (less airflow) while the /g/ sound is voiced (more airflow). You can feel a difference by placing your hand on your throat as you produce the sounds.

Common substitutions for these sounds are /t/ for /k/ and /d/ for /g/, which means the child is tapping the front of the tongue to the roof of the mouth just behind the top front teeth, known as *fronting*. In order to help a child make this sound correctly, hold the tongue down in the front of the mouth with a finger or a popsicle stick. In holding this part of the tongue down, it should hump up in the back. Adjust the finger or stick to keep the tongue down in front only, but beware of the gag reflex.

Suggested words (remember beginning words need functional meaning for each individual child):

Initial /k/ words (note most words start with grapheme 'c', but the phoneme or sound is /k/)

cab	call	car	coat	comb	corn
cage	camp	card	cob	come	cow
cake	can	cart	cold	cone	cub
calf	cap	cat	colt	cool	cup

keep	kick	kids	king
key	kid	king	kite

- "Can't" is a powerful beginning word.

Final /k/ words

back	block	cake	cook	kick	neck
bake	book	chalk	dock	lake	peek
beak	break	check	duck	lock	puck
bike	brook	cheek	hawk	look	rock
black	buck	chick	hook	make	sock

Initial /g/ words

game	get	give	good
gas	ghost	go	goose
gate	gift	goat	got
geese	girl	gone	gum

- "All gone" is a beginning concept indicating knowledge that something is no longer present.

Final /g/ words

bag	dig	frog	jug	peg
big	dog	hog	keg	pig
bog	egg	hug	leg	rug
bug	fig	jig	log	slug
clog	flag	jog	mug	twig

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