About Identifying Beginning Consonant Digraphs  The term consonant digraph refers to two side-by-side consonants that together represent a single sound (/sh/, for example). Some children seem to instinctively learn to identify, decode, and spell consonant digraphs. However, other children benefit from explicit instruction and repeated practice opportunities.

You can use the activities in the software and in this packet to individualize instruction as needed. The digraphs *ch, sh, th,* and *wh* are covered.

**Packet 12 Objective:** Identify beginning consonant digraphs (*ch, sh, th,* and *wh*) in picture names, letters, and words.

**Class Activity: What a Farm!**

**Outcome:** Identify beginning consonant digraphs in spoken words.

1. Review beginning consonant digraphs:
   - What is the beginning sound in the word *chop* (*short, thick, what*)?
   - Can you name the letters that spell this sound?

2. Sing "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" with the class. However, instead of animals, name words that begin with *ch, sh, th,* and *wh,* and instead of animal sounds, say the sound of the digraph. For example:
   
   "…on that farm he had a *shell,* E-I-E-I-O. With a *sh-sh* here and…"

   Possible words include *ship, shell, shoe, chart, child, chessboard, whistle, whiskers, wheel, thimble, thunder,* and *thermometer.*

**Worksheet 1: Chick Maze**

**Materials:** Chick Maze worksheet (1 per child), pencils

**Outcome:** Find words that begin with the /ch/ sound.

Instruct children to begin at the top left of the worksheet and draw a path through the words that begin with the /ch/ sound.

**Extra Help:** Before completing the maze, name each picture and circle the ones that begin like *chick.*

**Going Further:** Name the beginning sound for each picture not on the path.

**Worksheet 2: Which One?**

**Materials:** Which One? worksheet (1 per child), crayons

**Outcome:** Identify picture names that begin with *sh, th,* and *wh.*

Work as a class to name the letters/sound of the digraph in the first exercise and circle the correct picture. Let children finish the page independently.

**Extra Help:** Expand the directions; for example, "…begins *th,* like the word *thief.*"

**Going Further:** Help children list other words that begin with *sh, th,* and *wh.*
Chick Maze
Worksheet 1

Help the chicks find each other. Follow words that begin like 🐥.
Which number begins **th**?

13 0 10

Which animal begins **sh**?

Deer  Wolf  Sheep

Which color begins **wh**?

White  Black  Grey

Which clothing begins **sh**?

Jeans  T-shirt  Jacket