

## Consonant Sound /m/ spelled "mb"

Copyright © 2007 OnTrack Reading

This list was taken from a 7,000 word database built from a children's dictionary.

### 1-Syllable

lamb  
limb  
bomb  
crumb  
dumb  
numb  
thumb  
comb  
climb  
tomb  
womb

### 2-Syllable

plumb er  
plumb ing  
climb er  
comb ing  
tomb stone

### 3-Syllable

ho ney comb

Note: The **mb** spelling creates some problems when attempting to chunk words according to the OnTrack Reading method. Words like "plumber," "climber," "combing" and "bomber" would be chunked (according to the rules) as "plum-ber," "clim-ber," "com-bing" and "bom-ber" if a child doesn't initially recognize these words. The problem is that generally adding a consonant sound to the vowel sound implies that the vowel sound will be the First Vowel Sound (short sound) but words like "climber" and "combing" don't fit this pattern.

In the case of the **mb** spelling, a child should probably first overlearn the one-syllable words like "comb," "thumb" and "climb" and also learn the various suffixes like "er," "y," "ing" and "ed" so that a word like "climber" is instantly recognized on sight.

The OnTrack Reading method of multisyllable decoding works exceptionally well with children, but as with any reading method depending on a rules structure, exceptions exist.