REVISIONS AND REPAIRS - THE FIXED-UP-ONE ROUTINE /sn/ and /sm/ CLUSTERS

two steps

Imagery Ideas / Metalanguage

friends

Refer to consonant clusters as "two-step words", and "walk" with your fingers to denote the two consonants (2 steps) in onset in the cluster words, and the one consonant (1 step) in onset for singleton words. Alternatively, or as well, refer to consonant clusters as "friends". Cue with silent finger-walking, and "You forgot your friend!", "Was that a 2-step?", "I didn't hear the first bit.", etc.

snail

"Listen, if I said 'nail' instead of 'snail' it wouldn't sound right. I'd think to myself, no, not 'nail', it's 'snail'. I'd need to fix it up and say 'snail'".

snow

"He's in the snow. Snow. But if I said 'no', I would need to quickly remember that the 'n' needs a friend. I would have to say 'snow'". ("walk" as you say this)
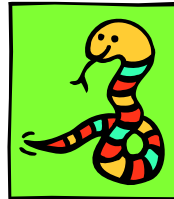
smile

"He has a big smile! If I said 'mile' instead of 'smile' what would I have to do? I'd have to …fix it up!"

small

"A mouse is small. It's not 'mall' is it? If I say 'mall' I have to quickly remind myself to fix it up and put the first bit in. It is supposed to be 'small'".

snake

"What about 'nake'? Would I have to fix it up if I said 'nake'?"

smell

"She can mell the flower. MELL the flower? Uh oh! I need to do a …"

smoke

"Is it 'moke'? No, I missed out the first bit. I need to fix it up and say 'smoke'".

snack

"If I said I wanted a 'nack' what would I have to do? I would have to do a …"

snip

"Does this sound right to you? She can nip with her scissors. What should I do about 'nip'? Do I need to fix up 'nip'?"