

Rhyming Activities

Common Rhyme Endings to Bring to Children's Attention:

-ack	-ight	-oke	-ink	-ate
-ice	-eat	-ug	-unk	-op
-ore	-ain	-ine	-ank	-aw
-ick	-ill	-ame	-ip	-ay
-ot	-ake	-ing	-ap	
-ide	-uck	-ump	-ash	
-ock	-ale	-an	-it	
-ail	-in	-ell	-at	

Fill In the Missing Rhyme

When reading or reciting familiar rhymes and rhyming stories, pause so children can fill in the rhyming word. "hickory, dickory, **dock**. The mouse ran up the _____." As children respond point out the two words that rhyme. For example, you might say, "**Clock** sounds like **dock**. They both end with -ock. *Clock* and *dock* rhyme!"

Substitute New Rhymes for Old

Change the rhyming words as you recite familiar rhymes. For example, you might say "Here's a way to say 'Hey Diddle Diddle' with different rhymes." The new rhyme would go like this:

Hey **dink, dink**,
The cat and the **sink**,
The cow jumped over the **rock**.
The little dog laughed to see such a sight
And the dish ran away with the **sock**.

As you talk with the children about "Hey Dink Dink", point out or encourage them to identify the new word endings, in this case *-ink* and *-ock* in place of *-iddle* and *-oon*. Once children have caught on, see if they can supply new sets of rhyming words in the rhyme you have introduced, or in a familiar rhyme they choose.

Find Rhyming Objects

Provide children with a bag or basket that holds a collection of familiar objects, including some with rhyming names. Ask the children to find the things with names that rhyme (*cat/hat*, *slipper/zipper*, *pear/bear*). These collections might include:

A block, a rock and a sock
A cat, a hat, a mat, and a rat
A pan, a fan, a man, a can, and a van
A shell and a bell
A book and a hook
A ball and a wall
A car, a guitar, and a jar
A shoe and glue
A goat, a boat and a coat

Alternatively, give each child a set of familiar objects and ask them to make up words that rhyme with the object. For example, a child with a kitty puppet might say "Kitty, bitty, mitty."

Adapted from several sources including LiteracyConnections.com and High/Scope *Extensions*, March-April 2002

Do It When it Rhymes

Provide a series of phrases and ask the children to act on the phrase that rhymes. For example, as a transition between large-group and outside time you might say “When you hear your name and a word that rhymes with your name, you can go get your coat. But watch out ‘cause I’m going to try to trick you! I’m going to start with your name, Sam. Hat, Sam. (pause) Sun, Sam. (Pause) Jam, Sam. Over the course of time children will be able to generate their own rhymes and replace you as the leader of this game.

Make up Rhymes

Try making up rhymes phrases with children. For example, you might dismiss children at the end of the day by having each child supply a word or nonsense word that rhymes with his or her name?

“Coat time for Brian, rhymes with -----(*lion, tryin’, shian*).”

“Coat time for Chris, rhymes with -----(*miss, hiss, triss*).”

If a child is not able to offer a rhyme, ask for suggestions from other children, If a child offers a non-rhyming word, acknowledge and accept it as such: “**Hank** and **horse** have different ending sounds but they both start with the /h/ sound!” “**Kayla** and **Mom** don’t rhyme, but we could make a rhyming word if we put the sound **-ayla** at the end of *Mom*, like this: Coat time for **Kayla**, rhymes with **Momayla!**”

Looking for Rhyming Objects

Play rhyming “I spy” or “I see.” For example, at cleanup time or snack time you might say:

“I see something we’re sitting on that rhymes with **bug**. What do you think it could be?”

“I see something in the book area that ends with the **-illow** sound. What could it be?”

“I see something red that rhymes with **call**. I wonder what it could be?”

Once children catch on, let them be the leaders.

Phonograms

Some of the easiest words for making up rhymes are:

- cat, bat, hat, rat, sat, fat, mat, gnat, and pat
- well, shell, sell, tell, fell, and bell
- hide, ride, glide, wide, and slide
- kite, bite, white, might, night, right, sight, light, and fight
- row, bow, no, snow, sew, low, go, and toe
- fun, one, sun, done, bun, and run
- pie, bye, cry, sigh, tie, why, my, high, and die
- cake, flake, bake, snake, take, and lake
- feet, meet, seat, beat, neat, greet, and heat
- bear, tear, dare, wear, pair, and fair
- tea, bee, me, sea, three, free, and key
- cow, how, now, vow, and meow

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Word Families

Here are the 37 most common phonograms and some of the 500 words they make up. Remember that although this list contains only one-syllable words, these phonograms will help students decode longer words, too.

--ab

cab, lab, blab, crab, flab, grab, scab, slab, stab

--ack

back, pack, quack, rack, black, crack, shack, snack, stack, track

--ag

bag, rag, tag, brag, flag

--ail

fail, mail, jail, nail, pail, rail, sail, tail, snail, trail

--ain

main, pain, rain, brain, chain, drain, grain, plain, Spain, sprain, stain, train

--ake

bake, cake, fake, lake, make, quake, rake, take, wake, brake, flake, shake, snake

--am

ham, Sam, clam, slam, swam

--an

can, fan, man, pan, ran, tan, van, bran, plan, than

--ank

bank, sank, yank, blank, crank, drank, thank

--ap

cap, lap, map, nap, rap, tap, clap, flap, scrap, slap, snap, strap, trap, wrap

--at

bat, cat, fat, hat, mat, rat, sat, brat, chat, flat, spat, that

--ay

day, may, pay, say, clay, play, pray, spray, stay, tray

--eed

feed, need, seed, weed, bleed, freed, greed, speed

--ell

bell, fell, sell, tell, well, yell, shell, smell, spell, swell

--est

best, guest, nest, pest, rest, test, vest, west, chest, crest

--ew

dew, few, knew, new, blew, chew

--ick

kick, lick, pick, quick, sick, brick, chick, click, stick, thick, trick

--ight

knight, light, might, night, right, sight, tight, bright, flight, fright, slight

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--ill

fill, hill, pill, will, chill, drill, grill, skill, spill, thrill

--in

bin, fin, pin, sin, win, chin, grin, shin, skin, spin, thin, twin

--ine

fine, line, mine, nine, pine, vine, wine, shine, spine, whine

--ing

king, ring, sing, wing, bring, cling, spring, sting, string, swing, thing

--ink

link, pink, sink, wink, blink, drink, shrink, stink, think

--ip

dip, hip, lip, rip, sip, tip, chip, clip, drip, flip, grip, ship, skip, strip, trip, whip

--ob

knob, mob, rob, blob, slob, snob

--ock

knock, lock, dock, rock, sock, block, clock, frock, shock, stock

--op

cop, hop, mop, pop, top, chop, crop, drop, flop, plop, shop, stop

--ore

bore, more, sore, tore, wore, chore, score, shore, snore, store

--ot

got, dot, hot, knot, lot, not, plot, shot, spot

--out

grout, scout, shout, spout, sprout

--ow

cow, how, now, brow, chow, plow

--uck

buck, duck, luck, cluck, stuck, truck

--um

gum, hum, drum, plum, slum

--unk

junk, chunk, drunk, shrunk, stunk, trunk

-y

by, my, cry, dry, fly, fry, shy, sky, spy, try, why

The Name Game

Shirley Ellis

The name game!

Shirley!

Shirley, Shirley bo Birley Bonana fanna fo Firley
Fee fy mo Mirley, Shirley!

Lincoln!

Lincoln, Lincoln bo Bincoln Bonana fanna fo Fincoln
Fee fy mo Mincoln, Lincoln!

Come on everybody!

I say now let's play a game

I betcha I can make a rhyme out of anybody's name

The first letter of the name, I treat it like it wasn't there

But a B or an F or an M will appear

And then I say bo add a B then I say the name and Bonana fanna and a fo

And then I say the name again with an F very plain

and a fee fy and a mo

And then I say the name again with an M this time

and there isn't any name that I can't rhyme

Arnold!

Arnold, Arnold bo Barnold Bonana fanna fo Farnold
Fee fy mo Marnold Arnold!

But if the first two letters are ever the same,

I drop them both and say the name like

Bob, Bob drop the B's Bo ob

For Fred, Fred drop the F's Fo red

For Mary, Mary drop the M's Mo ary

That's the only rule that is contrary.

Okay? Now say Bo: Bo

Now Tony with a B: Bony

Then Bonana fanna fo: bonana fanna fo

Then you say the name again with an F very plain: Fony

Then a fee fy and a mo: fee fy mo

Then you say the name again with an M this time: Mony

And there isn't any name that you can't rhyme

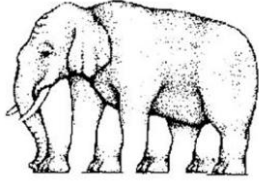
Everybody do Tony!

Pretty good, let's do Billy!

Very good, let's do Marsha!

A little trick with Nick!

The name game



Willowby, Wallowby Woo

Willowby, Wallowby Woo
An elephant sat on you.
Willowby, Wallowby Wee
An elephant sat on me.

Make up your own rhymes like this:

- Willowby, Wallowby Wary, an elephant sat on Mary
- Willowby, Wallowby Wuzzle, an elephant played with a puzzle.
- Willowby, Wallowby Woo, an elephant went to the zoo.
- Willowby, Wallowby Weetah, an elephant ran with a cheetah, etc.