

Phonemic Awareness



Read-Aloud List

to Promote Phonemic Awareness



Silly Sally by Audrey Wood

This goofy story includes rhyming words and repetitive language. Emphasize similarities and differences between words while sharing this book with your child.

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin Jr.

Bill Martin Jr.'s childhood classic includes all of the letters of the alphabet and words that begin with each of those letters. This can help your child build letter-sound correspondence. Encourage your child to make connections between phonemes and letters after multiple reads



A Giraffe and a Half by Shel Silverstein

A fast-paced, imaginative read, this story includes repetitive rhymes. Carefully enunciate the different phonemes and help your child

Llama Llama Red Pajama by Audrey Wood

Encourage your child to find the rhyming words and identify the phonemes that are similar and those that are different.



Bill Martin Jr. | Eric Carle



Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Eric Carle

When your child is familiar with the story, allow them to fill in the blanks with the rhyming words ("looking at ____!")

At-Home Activities

Can You Guess My Word?

Remind your student what it means for two words to rhyme (they end with the same sounds like "cat" and "bat"). Then, think of a word and a word that rhymes with it. Ask your child "Can you guess my word? It rhymes with ____." When they guess your word, it's their turn!

Sound Scavenger Hunt

Give your child a sound and an example word (/b/ as "ball") and have them find as many objects around the house that start with that sound as they can. As they get more comfortable with the game, use middle and ending sounds as well!

Building Phonemic Awareness Online

While shared reading and interactive word games are the best ways to help promote phonemic awareness in your child, word games online or apps on Smartphone or tablets can be a fun, engaging way for students to practice phonemic awareness on their own. There are many helpful websites out there, but I recommend [ReadingResource.net](https://www.readingresource.net). This has a variety of information and resources, but also includes links to numerous children's games that target different areas of phonemic awareness. Find the games linked here: <https://www.readingresource.net/websiteforkids.html>

Phonemic Awareness

What is phonemic awareness?

Phonemic awareness is defined as an understanding that spoken language and words are made up of individual sounds. In terms of performance, phonemic awareness is defined as the ability to pick out and manipulate sounds in spoken words and language.

Why is phonemic awareness important?

Phonemic awareness is critical to your child's reading and spelling success. A child's phonemic awareness is often a predictor of a student's future success in reading and writing. When children are able to distinguish and manipulate the sounds within spoken words, they are better able to recognize and learn the print-sound relationship that is necessary for reading and spelling success. Helping children build their phonemic awareness helps them discover and strengthen the link between print and sound.



What is a phoneme?

A phoneme is the smallest unit of speech. Each phoneme is a distinct, individual sound that helps to build a word.

The word "sock" has 4 letters, but 3 phonemes: [s] [o] [ck]

Phonemic Awareness Skills

- **Isolate & individual sounds**
 - The word dog starts with /d/, sock starts with /s/, and cat ends with /t/
- **Identify phonemes**
 - Bat and boy start with /b/, while toy and tape start with /t/
- **Recognize & categorize specific phonemic patterns**
 - This includes rhyming or recognizing similarities and differences in word sounds
- **Segment phonemes in a word**
 - The word chain pulls apart into phonemes /ch/ /ai/ /n/
- **Blend sounds together**
 - Push together phonemes /t/ /o/ /p/ to make the word top
- **Make changes or substitutions to phonemes in a word**
 - Change the /m/ in mug to /r/ to make rug