



Read to Me News

From Your Public Library & Idaho's Read to Me Program

Phonological Awareness

To understand a spoken language, a child must be able to hear and distinguish the sounds that make up the language.

To help develop phonological awareness:

- Help your pre-reader become aware of the smaller sounds that make up words by learning nursery rhymes and making up your own silly, nonsense rhymes together.

- Ask whether two words rhyme: "Do 'cat' and 'dog' rhyme?" "Do 'cat' and 'hat' rhyme?"

- Sing songs with your child every day. Songs naturally break words into syllables and are a fun way to learn about word sounds.

- Play "I Spy" with rhymes. "I spy with my little eye something that rhymes with far (car)." Let your child make up rhymes and have you guess too.

- Put two words together to make a new word: "What word would we have if we put 'cow' and 'boy' together?"

- Leave out the last rhyming word. For example: Twinkle, twinkle, little star
How I wonder what you _____, (are).
Do this with other nursery rhymes, poems, and songs that your child knows by heart.

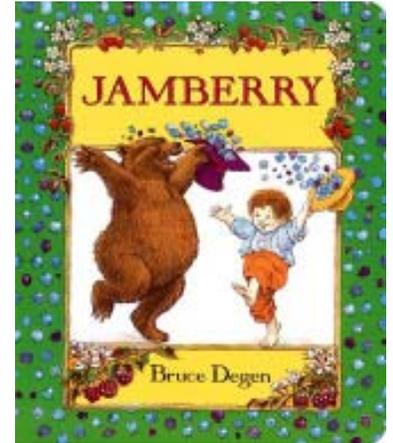
- Say rhymes and sing songs in the language most comfortable for you.

Most children who have an understanding of phonological awareness have an easier time learning to read.

Book of the Month

Jamberry, by Bruce Degen

This book is a happy verse of a boy and a bear celebrating finding blueberries, strawberries, blackberries and raspberries. The rhyme and illustrations delight young children so much that after a few readings they are chanting and singing the poem. Children will enjoy looking at the pictures many times to see all the "hidden" berry-related details, such as a mouse eating toast with raspberry jam while floating in a tiny boat.



Here are some other rhyming books you and your child might enjoy:

Is Your Mama a Llama?
by Deborah Guarino

Barnyard Banter, by Denise Fleming

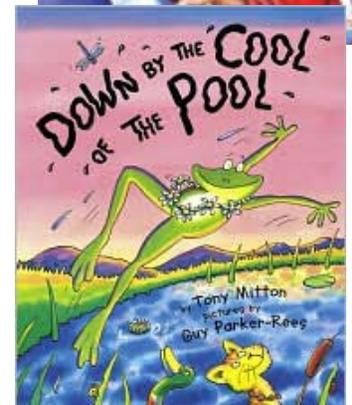
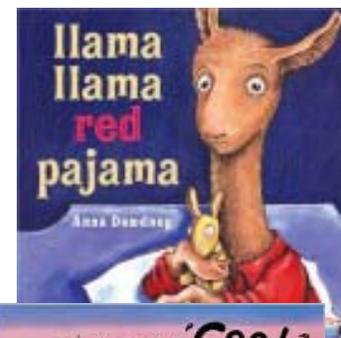
Llama Llama Red Pajama,
by Anna Dewdney

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom,
by Bill Martin Jr.

Down by the Cool of the Pool,
by Tony Mitton

Miss Mary Mack, by Mary Ann Hoberman

Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed,
by Eileen Christelow



More Fun with Jamberry

☼ Ask your child to tell you his or her favorite kind of jam or jelly or favorite kind of berries.



☼ Have your child look at the cover of the book and tell whether the book will be a funny book or not.

☼ Read *Jamberry* at least twice. Encourage your child to join in as he or she recalls the rhyming lines.

☼ Talk about which berries in the story are real and which are made up.

☼ Write down as many words that your child can think of that rhyme with berry. Add your own!

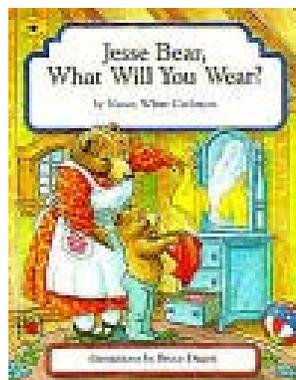
We Like Berries! Get some fresh or frozen blueberries, strawberries, blackberries and/or raspberries (and maybe some whipped cream!). Have your child assist you in washing the berries and preparing them. Taste the berries and compare their tastes. Discuss some of the foods we prepare with berries like jams, pies or cobblers, and fillings for pastries.



Berry Smoothie: Take a package of frozen berries and put them in your blender with some vanilla yogurt and milk or juice. Blend well. This is a simple and nutritious snack.

More Books Illustrated by Bruce Degen

Bruce Degen also illustrated the rhyming book *Jesse Bear, What Will You Wear?* and he illustrates the popular Magic School Bus series. You can see a video interview with him at www.readingrockets.org/books/interviews/degen.



Rhymes of the Month

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear

(do the actions as you say the rhyme)

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, turn around,
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, touch the ground,
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, reach up high,
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, wink one eye,
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, slap your knees,
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, sit down please.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, show your shoe.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, that will do.

Round and Round the Garden

Round and round the garden, like a Teddy Bear (*gently trace finger in a circle around child's palm*)

One step, two step (*walk your fingers up child's arm*)

Tickle you under there!
(*tickle under chin, under arm or tummy*)



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