



The Bookworm

From your
local library
and Idaho's Read
to Me program

Phonological Awareness

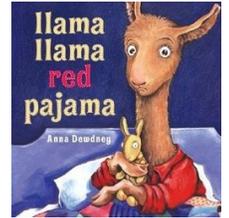
To understand a spoken language, a child must be able to hear the different sounds and parts of the words that make up the language. By playing with words, children develop "phonological awareness." Most children who have phonological awareness have an easier time learning to read.

Here's what you can do:

- 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 'hat' sound alike?" "Do 'cat' and 'dog' 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.

Book of the Month

Llama, Llama, Red Pajama, by Anna Dewdney

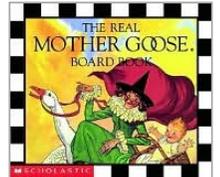


A bedtime story. A good-night kiss. And Mama Llama turns off the light. But is everything all right? No! At least, Baby Llama doesn't think so...And soon his whimpers turn to hollers. It's an all-out llama drama until Mama returns to set things right. Warm, fuzzy, and very funny, *Llama Llama Red Pajama* is sure to bring smiles to children and parents alike!

More great books to help your child play with words:

Early Talkers (Birth to 2 years)

The Real Mother Goose, pictures by Blanche Fisher Wright



Up, Down and Around, by Katherine Ayers

The Pout-Pout Fish, by Deborah Diesen

Talkers (3 to 5 years)

Tanka Tanka Skunk!, by Steve Webb

Mouse Mess, by Linnea Asplind

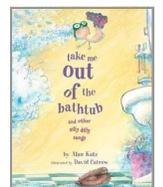
Fox in Socks, by Dr. Seuss

Saturday Night at the Dinosaur

Stomp, by Carol Diggory Shields

Pre-readers (Grades K-1)

Take Me Out of the Bathtub and *Smelly Locker: Silly Dilly School Songs*, by Alan Katz



Bebé Goes to the Beach, by Susan Middleton Elya

More fun with *Llama, Llama, Red Pajama...*

Rhyme Time... Choose two words from one of the rhymes in the book, such as drink and sink. Say them several times with your child and explain that these words *rhyme*, they sound alike. Help your child think of other real and nonsense words that rhyme with drink and sink (link, kink, pink, dink).



Music and Movement... Put some rhythm into these rhymes! Bounce, clap, tap, stomp, drum, jump, snap... Giving each part of the word a beat will help your young child learn to break words into syllables.



Clap = 1 syllable
Happy = 2 syllables
Excited = 3 syllables

Out and About... Play "Secret Word" in the car, doctor's office, in line at the store, etc. Think of a word, then say a word that rhymes with the secret word (it sounds like 'hook'). Have your child guess the word. You can give hints (we read this each night).

Song for Rhyming Practice

(to the tune of Skip to My Lou)
Drink, sink, these words rhyme
Drink, sink, these words rhyme
Drink, sink, these words rhyme
So rhyme along with me.



What's another word that rhymes with drink?

(Substitute their word for "sink" and re-sing the song. Do as many times as you like.)

Rhyming Games

Hickory Dickory Dock

Hickory Dickory Dock

(Lift child under arms and swing from side to side facing adult)

The mouse ran up the clock

(Raise child up)

The clock struck one

(Wiggle child)

The mouse ran down

(Bring child back down)

Hickory dickory dock

(Swing from side to side facing adult)



What your library can do for you...

Ask your librarian about storytimes and other free programs that are offered for young children. Most storytimes for children focus on rhymes and sounds.

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