

Phonemic Awareness: An Early Reading Skill

You might be surprised to learn that reading starts long before children learn what the alphabet looks like. Phonemic Awareness is all about hearing sounds in words. Parents start “teaching” phonemic awareness by reading rhyming books and singing nursery rhymes. Here are 3 games you can play anytime, anywhere to help your preschooler or kindergartener practice this early reading skill!

I SPY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● You choose a word and say, “I spy a word that rhymes with _____.”● Your child can shout out anything that rhymes with the word you’ve chosen. <p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● You say, “I spy a word that rhymes with.... fly.”● Your child might shout out, “Sky! Tie! Fry!”
The SLOW Game	<p>You say word parts slowly and then your child says it fast.</p> <p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● You say, “I’m going to say a word slowly and then you say it fast: C-A-T”● Your child says, “CAT”
The FAST Game	<p>You say a word fast and then your child says the parts slowly.</p> <p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● You say, I am going to say a word fast and you say it slowly: TREE● Your child says, “T-R-EE”