

Developing Good Reading Skills

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We Improve Communication for Life

Phonological Awareness skills are important in order to develop good reading skills. Having good phonological awareness skills means that your child is able to manipulate or 'play' with sounds and words. Practicing the following phonological skills at home will provide your child with a strong foundation for learning to read.

- **Rhyming:** Practicing identifying if words rhyme or do not rhyme, as well as coming up with a rhyming word (Do shoe and tree rhyme? What word rhymes with cat?). Hop on Pop by Dr. Seuss is a great book to expose children to rhyme.
- **Segmentation Skills:** Practice clapping for each word in a sentence. The next step would be to clap for each syllable or part you hear in a word (tur-key, bas-ket-ball).
- **Blending Skills:** Practice blending parts of a word (tel-e-phone is "telephone") as well as blending each sound into a word (d-o-g is 'dog').
- **Deletion Skills:** Practice deleting parts of a word ("Say pancake, now say pancake without saying 'pan'") as well as sounds within a word ("Say 'pack' now say pack without saying 'p'").
- **Sound Manipulation Skills:** Practice changing a sound within a word to make a new word ("Change 's' in 'sad' to a 'd', what word is it?").

More ideas for fun activities can be found on our Pinterest page, visit www.pinterest.com/columbusspeech/

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