

Sound Games to Play At Home

It is very important for both successful reading and spelling that children are able to hear and identify rhyme, syllables and sounds in words. There are many fun ways you can help your child to do this:

- Play “I Spy.” Look for an object in the room which begins with a particular letter sound and say e.g. “I spy with my little eye something beginning with ...c.” The child then guesses, e.g. curtains, carpet etc.
- Generate rhyming strings of words, e.g. cat, sat, hat, mat; bear, hair, care etc.
- Read rhymes and poems and identify rhyming words – can child change the rhyme, e.g. “Jack and Jill went up the hill...” to “Dad and Sam went on the tram...”
- Clap out syllables, e.g. Christopher: Chris – to – pher, com – pu – ter.
- Play Word Ladders; can you change word “west” to “belt” by changing one letter at a time, e.g. west, best, belt.
- Play “Simon Says” but sound out the instruction, e.g. “Simon says touch your l-e-g.”
- Generate funny animal names, e.g. Ricky Gervais’ Funnimals. Can child make up their own.
- Make up silly sentences / tongue twisters using alliteration, same beginning sounds, e.g. She Sells Sea Shells on the Sea Shore.
- Play with spoonerisms, change initial sounds in words, e.g. Sally Jones – Jally Sones.