



## Did You Know?

Did you know that recognizing rhymes is an important prereading skill? Words that rhyme make your child notice the sounds in words. Hearing word sounds is a first step to developing reading skills.

## Books with Rhyming Words

Read books aloud with your child often. Quiet time together with a book creates a special time for you and your little one. It also promotes skills that will help your child learn in school. Here are some books that feature rhyming words:

- *Bear Snores On* by Karma Wilson
- *Sheep in a Jeep* by Nancy Shaw
- *Mrs. McNosh Hangs up her Wash* by Sarah Weeks
- *Is your Mama a Llama?* by Deborah Guarino

## At Home

At first, your child simply needs to hear many different rhyming words. You can help by reading rhyming books. Ask your child which words on a page rhyme. Sound out each word at the end of the phrase and ask your child if the ends of the words sound the same.

## While You Are Out\*

**In the grocery store:** Make up silly rhyming words for real items in the grocery store. Tell your child you are looking at a “fanana” and ask your child to find the fruit that rhymes with “fanana.” Continue with other silly rhymes.

**In waiting rooms:** Make up sentences with rhyming words. Ask your child to say one other word that rhymes with the words in your sentence. For example, “The fat cat sat on a hat.”

*\*These activities have been adapted from the Family Child Care Mentoring Project, Somerset County Judy Center.*

## School Readiness Matters

Knowing that spoken words are made up of different sounds is a skill needed for school readiness and future reading skills. For more information about school readiness and how you can support your child, please follow the links below:

[Family Initiatives and School Readiness](#)

[Word and Rhyming Games \(video\)](#)

[Teaching Language Sounds](#)