

Phonological Awareness

Before being able to read written letters and words, children learn to hear the individual sounds in spoken words. For example, beginning readers with phonemic awareness are able to hear and recognize that the word “cat” is made up of the sounds /c/ /a/ /t/. They can also combine or blend the separate sounds of a spoken word to say the word (“/d/ /o/ /g/ → dog”). Phonological Awareness activities provide practice in segmenting individual sounds in spoken words and blending sounds to say the word.

Use these activities to reinforce and practice phonological awareness skills with your child.

Title	Suggested Grade(s)	Target Skill(s)	Activity
Count the Words	K–2	Word Counting	Have your child count the number of words in a spoken sentence. Say a sentence. (Example: “Let’s go to the park.”) Have your child tell you the number of words in the sentence. Switch roles, allowing your child to give you a sentence and have you say the number of words it contains.