

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
Find Specific Sounds	K–2	Isolate Beginning and Ending Sound	Have your child and other family members listen for words with a specific sound in family conversation or on television and radio programs, such as words that start with the <i>s</i> sound or that end with the <i>k</i> sound. Have your family members share their heard words and list them on a piece of paper.