

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
Mystery Game	K–2	Isolate Beginning Sound	Play a mystery game in which you are calling your child's name or looking for an object around the house. For example, say, “I'm thinking of someone whose name begins with (say the sound for the letter t),” or “I'm looking for an item that begins with (say the sound for the letter g).”