

Help your child listen to rhyme by...

Rhyming books

There are many rhyming story books and exposure to a wide variety of these books is helpful e.g. The Gingerbread Man, Each Peach Pear Plum, Duck in a Truck, Chicken Licken

Rhyming pairs

How about making up some rhyming couplets with your child:

- I like rice – it's very nice
- I like fish – on a dish
- I like jelly – it wobbles in my belly

You can encourage your child to add some actions to the rhymes.

Hickory dickory dock

You can sing the song and encourage your child to find a rhyme for the number of times the clock is struck. For example "the clock struck two, the mouse went... boo", "the clock struck three, the mouse went... whee."

All of these ideas have come from a resource called "the Jolly Jellyfish jumps into literacy" used at your child's pre-school. If you would like more ideas talk to the staff.

An introduction to the **JOLLY** **JELLYFISH** jumps into literacy



Does your child...

- like listening to stories?
- enjoy moving to music?
- sing nursery rhymes with you?

Did you know...

- all of these activities will help develop your child's phonological awareness skills.
- for pre-school children it is better to develop these skills than to be taught individual written letters.

Phonological awareness is ...

- the ability to listen to and recognise different sounds and patterns in spoken language.

There is evidence...

- to suggest that a child's skill in phonological awareness when starting school determines how well he or she will learn to read.

Help your child listen to sound by...

Sound lotto (available to buy or better still – make your own)

Record everyday sounds on a tape. Show your child pictures of the corresponding objects in the form of a lotto card. Your child has to place a counter on the picture that matches the appropriate sound on the tape.

Old MacDonald had a farm

Sing this song and encourage your child to join in with the animal sounds. Show them pictures of the animals when you make the sounds. Can they point to the right picture when you make the sound?

Butterflies and elephants

Make a sound like shaking a tambourine and let your child run like a butterfly. Then make a different sound like banging a tambourine and let your child stamp like an elephant.

Help your child move to sound by...

Musical statues

Play a musical instrument or some taped music. Your child moves around and freezes into a statue when it stops. You can make the periods of silence between sounds longer and longer so it becomes more and more difficult for your child to stay still.

Vice versa

Try playing musical statues with your child moving around when there is no sound, and stopping when the music is playing.

Let your child play!

Let your child try dancing/moving to different types of music. One day use a slow tune then a fast one another day. Don't forget you can use current popular music. You can provide lengths of ribbon or scarves for the children to use whilst they are dancing.