



Find Words with the Same First Sound

Listen for the same beginning sound in familiar words.

Helps Your Child Grow



Phonological Awareness

Listening to and repeating words such as rain, raincoat, and raindrop helps your child notice a shared beginning sound and build sensitivity to the sound structure of language.

Steps

- Words can hide little sound patterns. Invite your child to listen for words that begin with the same sound.
- On a rainy day, try rain, raincoat, and raindrop. Say the words slowly and emphasize /r/: “Rain, raincoat, raindrop. They all start with /r/.” Invite your child to repeat them.
- Ask whether they can think of another word with the same beginning sound. Real words such as rainbow or rabbit work; a silly made-up word is fine too when the goal is listening to the sound.
- Try another group, such as baby, ball, and basket, or sun, sock, and sandwich. Say each word, listen for the first sound, and add more words together. Keep the emphasis on the sound you hear, not the letter name. Short, playful rounds are enough.

Tips

- Choose sounds your child can hear and say easily. Pictures or objects can make each word more concrete.
- If two words begin with different spellings but the same sound, focus on what your child hears. If the sounds differ, start a new group rather than forcing the words to match.

Observations

- Notices that words such as rain, raincoat, and raindrop begin with the same sound and suggests another word
- Repeats the beginning sound of a new word after you say it