

Tip Sheet #8

## RHYME TIME

**Rhyming words help children who are just starting to read. Rhymes help children sound out words on a page and see how they have the same endings. The repetition of rhymes also helps children remember what is being read. And rhymes can be fun!**

*There are many ways to find and use rhymes with beginning readers. All of these can be found in your local library and on billboards, in ads, on the internet, and on the radio.*

Jump rope rhymes  
Rhyming poetry  
Hymns  
Popular songs

Nursery rhymes  
Lullabies  
Advertising jingles  
Cheers at sporting events

*Schools often give young readers words that rhyme so that they can see the patterns:*

**COOK - BOOK - LOOK**

Working with these rhyming words helps new readers figure out what part of the word is different and what part is the same. They are doing this with their eyes, and also with their ears, as they hear the rhyming patterns.

Rhymes also can make us laugh and make us think, all at the same time. Thinking up rhyming words together is a great activity to do when you are on a trip or waiting in line. It also turns the work of learning to recognize words, into play. “How many words can you think of that rhyme with “book?” (or “fan” or “deep” or “stop”...).

Let new readers include any words that sound the same, even if the endings are spelled differently. As readers get more practise, they can start noticing and playing with words that sound the same but are spelled differently (your-you’re, right-write, to-too-two).

As you read nursery rhymes together, listen to songs and play rhyming games. Your child will begin to notice and tell you about all the rhymes they see and hear. You are raising a reader!



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