Rhyming
Blending and Segmenting
Games for Parents

Rhyming

1. Rhyme Hunt

Parent thinks of a one syllable word; for example, "you."
Parent chants, "Let's make a rhyme for "you."
Child answers: "stew"

Sample word list:
book-cook
tree-flea
try-fly
two-blue
tea-bee
pot-hot
wall-call
play-day
cat-fat

2. What Does Not Belong?

Parent gives the child three words. Two of the words rhyme. Child
finds the word that does not belong (does not rhyme).

Example:
Parent: "rat, men, hat"
Child: "men"

Sample Word List
hit-sit-fat
hen-Tom-pen
man-can-bell
hill-mop-top

Blending and Segmenting

Blending and Segmenting Words (putting together words and taking them apart) is an important beginning skill for reading. Blending and segmenting is the awareness of sounds in a word, not the printed letters. Be sure to say the **sounds** -- not the names of the letters.

1. Initial sounds:
Parent says, "Start with 'l', add 'unch.' What's the word?"
Child: "lunch"

Parent: "Start with 's' and add 'andwich.' What's the word?"
                                        Child: "sandwich"

Final sounds:
Parent: "Start with 'superma', add an 'n' sound. What's the word?"
Child: "Superman"

Parent: "Start with 'stam,' add a 'p' sound. What's the word?"
Child: "stamp"

Continue the above activities with any familiar words.

2. Middle Sounds:
Parent says three words with same middle vowel sound.
Parent: "teeth, cheek, deep. What sound do you hear in the middle?"
Child: "ee"

Continue activity with different vowel sounds.
Sample word list:
sack-mack-tack
heat-seam-meal
hop-mom-pot
dock-lot-Tom
sank-tank-thank
comb-poke-wrote
hen-yell-pet
hill-tick-sip

3. Whole Word (from part to whole)
Parent gives the child a one-syllable word to blend, one **sound** (not letter) at a time.

Parent: "b...i...g" What's the word?"
Child: "big"

Parent: "s...t...o...p" What's the word?"
Child: "stop"

Example Words:

Pig	Mop	Trim
Hut	Slam	Drum
Pen	Then	Grab
Mat	Chip	slop

Helpful Hint: A great time to accomplish these activities is in your car. You can read street signs and other print that you may come across.

4. Whole Word (from whole to part)

Parent says entire word: "big"
Child says each individual sound: "b...i...g"

Sample word list (any words will work)
nest
sand
mop
when (remember, the "h" is silent -- so your child won't hear it.)
top
game
rug

5. Change the Name Game

Parent: "Say 'man'"
Child: "man"

Parent: "Say it again, but this time say 't' instead of 'm'."
Child: "tan"

Parent uses word families to continue playing the game substituting beginning sounds to make new words.