

Oral Language:

Setting the stage for literacy learning



Why it's important:

Reading begins with our ears!

- When we spend time talking and sharing ideas, we are building an understanding of perspective and narrative.
- Sequencing ideas into sentences is a foundational skill for comprehension and writing.
- Playing with rhyme and rhythm in poems and songs helps us pay attention to the sounds and patterns in words.
- When we are able to do this, it helps us be able to narrow down our listening so we can begin to identify into individual sounds and finally, to connect those sounds to letters.
- **This game focuses on identifying descriptive words for an object.**

Challenge?

Try expanding the vocabulary you use as you create the categories:
what sounds does it make? (rumble, growl, squeal, whisper, sigh, shriek, etc.)
are there different shades for the colours? (pink, fuchsia, rose, hot pink, etc.)

Sort It!

In this activity you are playing with your child to sort items into a variety of categories based on their features.

For example: when looking at a collection (cars, rocks, stuffies, etc.)

You can sort by colour

You can sort by shape

You can sort by number of (wheels, legs, angles)

You can sort by the sound it makes

How many categories can your items be sorted into? Are there some that can go in more than one category? How do you decide where it goes?