

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.**



I Spy

In this activity you are playing with your child to describe something in their visual environment for them to identify with clues you provide.

"I Spy with my little eye, something that is..."
colour (blue)
shape (square)
purpose (for resting on)
texture (soft)

"Is it the pillow?"
"Yes!"

Then let your child give you the clues. Use the prompts above to help them if they have trouble generating a clue.

Challenge?

Try using prepositions instead of visual cues:

beside the...

under the...

higher than, lower than...

or, describe it in relation to something else
bigger than a..., smaller than a...