

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?

For each category, generate words in alphabetical order!

Food: *apple, banana, cupcake, dumplings...*

or, add an adjective to the item.

Clothes: *cozy sweater, warm socks, shiny shoes, rubber boots...*

Categories

In this activity you are playing with your child to name as many things as you can that belong in a category.

The category is: **clothes**
each take a turn saying an item that belongs in "clothes"

Whoever gets stuck first loses.

Take turns with your child generating the categories.

This activity helps them begin to sort ideas into more defined groups. It is helpful in refining their conceptual thinking and in building their vocabulary connections.