

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.**



What's in the bag?

Place an easy to describe object in a bag, or box, or other container, without your child seeing it.

Begin by describing one feature of it that is particular to that object:

it goes on your feet
it doesn't go outside
it is fuzzy on the inside
it is (colour)

After each hint, the child tries to guess.

Finally...*Is it a slipper?*
Yes!! That was good thinking!

Then try a new item. When they are ready, let your child provide the hints for you!

Challenge?

This game could also be done in other settings:

what is for dinner?
what will we buy at the store?
where are we going?
what book do you want me to read to you?