

Word Play:

Setting the stage for literacy learning

Why it's important:

Hearing the sounds in words lays the groundwork for reading!

- Hearing the individual sounds in words is called **phonemic awareness**. Connecting those sounds to printed letters is called **phonics**.
- When your child sees the sounds represented by letters as they are printed this can help consolidate their letter recognition and the connection between letters and their sounds.
- **This activity focuses on generating ideas connected to their identity that share an initial letter.**



What's in a name?

In this activity you will make an acrostic poem. Each line will begin with a letter in your child's name. **You then build the poem together**, selecting words that describe your child or things that interest them and match the letters.

Stefan
Silly
Terrific
Elephants
Funny
Agreeable
Nature

Grace
Groovy
Runner
Addition
Celebration
Excited

How many words can you come up with to describe your child? What about other members of the family?

Challenge?

Why stop at one word?

Can you make a phrase for each letter that uses alliteration (all the words begin with the same sound)?

Your child can draw a picture for each word showing themselves when they are silly, running, in nature, doing addition, etc.