



# Rhyming Names

INFANTS AND TODDLERS

**Materials** none

- What to do**
1. When interacting with children one-on-one, make up a little rhyme using the child's name. If needed, use nursery rhymes and insert the child's name, such as "Madeline Had a Little Lamb" or "Wee Walter Winkie."
  2. Use rhymes to highlight the children's positive characteristics. For example:
    - (Child's name) *is a happy boy. His smile is full of light and joy.*
    - (Child's name) *is a happy girl. She loves to dance and loves to twirl.*
    - (Child's name), *now you're small. One day you'll be big and tall.*
    - (Child's name) *with your eyes so bright, you're like a little shining light.*
  3. These rhymes not only cue the child that you are talking about him, they also help the child learn about rhyming sounds.

**More to do** **Transitions:** Use rhymes to give directions.

*There's milk in your cup.*

*It's time to play*

*Let's drink it up!*

*On this bright sunny day.*

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Christina R. Chilcote, New Freedom, PA

# Movement Words

INFANTS AND TODDLERS

**Materials** stuffed animals  
toy cars  
classroom objects

- What to do**
1. While playing with a child, move objects (such as stuffed animals) together and say, "I'm moving the animals together."
  2. Continue to use different movement words such as *moving, close together, far apart, on top of, behind, in front of, next to*, and so on.
  3. Use the same words while going for a walk.

**Related book** *Ten Apples Up on Top* by Dr. Seuss

Sandy L. Scott, Meridian, ID



# Cheers!

## YOUNGER TODDLERS

**Materials** none

- What to do**
1. Hold the child so he is facing you.
  2. Hold the child's arms and put them in the air while spelling his name. For example, say, "C-H-R-I-S-T-O-P-H-E-R," then say the name. "Christopher! Yea!"

*Jean Potter, Charleston, WV*

# Teacher-Made Picture Book

## YOUNGER TODDLERS

**Materials** photo album with plastic covering sturdy cardboard  
colorful pictures from magazines or catalogs  
transparent tape

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- What to do**
1. Select pictures that fit a theme, such as animals, flowers, vehicles, familiar objects (clothing, furniture), or activities such as running and sailing.
  2. Cut out the pictures and place them on separate pages of a photo album.
  3. Seal the edge with tape for added security.
  4. Use the picture books to teach vocabulary and encourage oral language.

*Mary Jo Shannon, Roanoke, VA*