

8. Then ask the child sitting next to you what happened next. Ask her to add one of her pieces and tell a couple more sentences.
9. Continue going around the circle until all the objects are in the middle. Then say, "The end!"

★ Tracey Neumarke, Chicago, IL

## Rhyming Objects

### Materials

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Rhyming objects • low table or flat surface

### What to do

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1. Collect pairs of rhyming objects ahead of time. Some suggestions are: car/star, mouse/house, book/hook, hat/cat, fish/dish, rose/bows, bug/rug, pin/tin, bee/tree, clown/brown, vase/lace, goat/boat, pot/knot, soap/rope, bear/pear, seed/weed, ring/king, moon/spoon, pan/fan, block/clock, ant/plant, wig/pig, dog/frog, and box/fox.
2. Collect as many pairs of rhyming objects as you have children, plus one or two extra, on a flat surface.
3. Let each child select a pair of rhyming objects. Encourage them to say what the objects are and use them in a sentence.
4. Sing songs that have many rhyming words such as "Down by the Bay," "This Old Man," and "Over in the Meadow."
5. Read a poetry book or rhyme book out loud. Read only the first rhyming word and let the children think of the second rhyming word.

★ Mary Brehm, Aurora, OH

# Story Box

## Materials

Box • miscellaneous items (such as a car, cup, book, or clothing), one for each child • paper • markers

## What to do

1. Put all of the items in a box. Make sure there are enough objects for each child to pick one.
2. Begin by helping the group pick a main character (any character will work).
3. Tell the first line of a story about that character.
4. Then, ask a child to select an item from the box. The child uses the object to tell the next line of the story.
5. Pass the box around the circle, so each child has a turn to add to the story.
6. Write each child's part on a separate sheet of paper and let her illustrate her page.
7. Assemble the pages and put the new book in the reading corner.

★ Catherine Shogren, Eagan, MN

