

What to do

1. Using a large font on your computer, type four-line rebus rhymes (making sure the last words of the second and fourth line rhyme). Make as many rhymes as desired.
2. Collect three pictures to replace the words in each rhyme. Label the words on the pictures.
3. Mount labeled pictures on 2" x 2 ½" rectangles of oak tag using a glue stick.
4. Glue the printed text to the front of a colored, string-tie envelope.
5. Laminate the string-tie envelopes and the labeled pictures.
6. Use an X-acto knife to cut around the top openings of each envelope.
7. Attach Velcro to the back of the rebus pictures and to the location in the text where a word was omitted.
8. Decorate a container to hold the envelopes, each with three pictures inside. Label the front with instructions for the activity.
9. The child opens the envelope, reads the rhyme, and attaches the picture to the correct location to complete the rhyme.
10. When finished, he returns the pictures to the inside of the envelope and returns the envelope to the container.

★ Jackie Wright, Enid, OK

Rhyming Words

Materials

Novel Notes or shaped notepads • pictures from old workbooks • scissors • glue stick • rubber cement • poster board • laminator

What to do

1. Purchase Novel Notes or find different-shaped notepads that correspond to your theme, such as butterflies and flowers.
2. Save pictures appropriate for rhyming words from old workbooks and worksheets.
3. Cut out pictures of pairs of rhyming words (for example, cat and hat).
4. Glue the picture of one rhyming word to the center of a butterfly-shaped notepad page and the corresponding rhyming picture to the center of a flower-shaped notepad page. Make as many rhyming pairs as desired.
5. Using rubber cement, attach the pages to poster board for durability.
6. Cut around the shapes, laminate, and trim off the excess laminating film.

7. Encourage the child to match rhyming pairs.

★ Jackie Wright, Enid, OK

Signing Letters/Signing Words

Materials

Alphabet signing chart

What to do

1. Practice signing the letters of the alphabet using the chart. Children enjoy signing the letters of their names.
2. Sing the alphabet song with the children. Encourage them to sign the letters as they sing the song.
3. Practice signing the letters of other familiar words. It is a great way to practice words, spelling, and sequencing of letters.

Related books

My First Book of Sign Language by Joan Holub

Signing at School by S. Harold Collins

Simple Signs by Cindy Wheeler

★ Sandra L. Nagel, White Lake, MI

Visit the Local Library Frequently

Materials

List of suggested books • computer with a database program