

Come Talk With Me



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From Your Audiologist

- School is starting! Now is the best time to teach your child to respect their equipment. Practice routine tasks such as taking their equipment on and off, and changing their batteries.
- For the kids using FM systems, identify school staff members responsible for checking the equipment. Routinely check in with the staff member to make sure everything is working okay.

Words Matter

Do you have a favorite poem or song? In the month of September, we are embracing the art of poetry and song. Vocabulary to target may include: Rhymes, stanza, onset, onset-rhyme, alliteration, haiku, verse, figurative language, imagery, irony, lyric, metaphor, onomatopoeia, oxymoron, repetition, simile, hymn, rhythm, pattern, line, assonance, sonnet, acrostic, theme, tone, symbolism, form, limerick, ode, song, chorus, poet, and author.

Support the development of poetry language by identifying the stanza verse and/or lyric of your child's favorite song or poem. If you have a CD lying around, see if your child can identify the chorus of the song by observing the repetition in the lyrics. If you don't have and CD's, it is easy to look-up online.

For little kids, sing-a-long to nursery rhyme songs. If your child doesn't have the language to join along, try to humming, clapping, or marching out the tune. Remember to sing the lyrics first, to expose your child to the vocabulary and sentence patterns.



Parent Strategies

- Make connections to nursery rhymes in real life. While making pizza or cookies, or playing with playdough, make-up songs that follow the same patterns as familiar nursery rhymes songs. Sing "Roll, roll, roll the dough" in the same fashion as "Row, Row, Row the boat."
- For older kids, create acrostic poems using your family member's first names. For each letter, brainstorm adjectives that describe each family member. For example, Tommy Trojan's acrostic poem would be: "T" for "terrific," "O" for "outstanding," "M" for "mighty," "M" for "majestic," and "Y" for "youthful."



Read On!

- My First Mother Goose By Tomie De Paola
- Hickory, Dickory Dock by James Marshall
- Humpty, Dumpty and Other Rhymes by Iona Opie
- Out Came the Sun: A Day In Nursery Rhymes by Heather Collins
- Helen Oxenbury Nursery Rhyme Collections by Helen Oxenbury
- The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein



Supporting your child's literacy development

- Nursery rhymes support your child's vocabulary and oral language development. You can build memory for oral language by repeating the nursery rhyme.
- Nursery rhymes introduce young children to story problems. Consider Jack and Jill. Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water. What happened? Jack fell down. What happened next? Jill came tumbling down after Jack fell.
- Play with the words in a child's nursery rhyme. For example, change the words in the rhyme, "Jack Be Nimble." Insert your child's name, _____ be nimble, _____ be quick, _____ jump 3 times over the candlestick."



Let's Chat

- Allow your child to lead you by asking you to choose between two nursery rhyme songs. "Do you want to hear 'Mary Had a Little Lamb' or 'Little Boy Blue?'" "Shall we dance or march to the song?" "Should we sing loud or quietly?"
- Practice using the word pattern "be + about" (including: am, are, is, was, were). "The poem **was about** a messy room." "I **am about** to sing a song." "We **are about** to start reading the poem."
- For older kids, have them practice using irregular comparative (e.g. better, worse) and superlative terms (e.g. best, worst) when comparing and contrasting poems or songs. For example, "I like Shel Silverstein's poems **better** than Edgar Allan Poe's poems."

Social Stars

- A way to engage your child in singing is to practice the strategy of auditory closure by starting a familiar song and then having your child complete the verse. For example, start to sing – "I'm a little tea ____" and then have your child fill in "pot."
- Songs and poems are frequently used in the classroom. Ask your child what songs or poems they learned at school that day. For example, "Clean-up, clean-up" and "Hello + (name)" are popular songs that are sung. Have your child teach you the song and sing it at home.

