

Rhyme Time Match-Up

What You'll Need

- Set of [Rhyming Cards](#) (pictures) cut out

Getting Started

1. Arrange the cards face up on the table.
2. Say the name of each picture to help your child become familiar with the correct word for each picture.
3. Place one card from each rhyming pair face up on the table, and turn over the remaining cards to be face down on the table.



Example of Rhyming Cards

How to Play

1. Choose one face-down card and flip it over.
2. Together, say the name of the picture on the card, speaking slowly and exaggerating the sounds.
3. Encourage your child to match the turned-over card to its rhyming pair on the table.
4. Ask your child to tell you the part of the words that is the same. Say the words in two parts like this: *dr-um, g-um, c-ake, r-ake, sl-ed, b-ed*, etc.

Fun Ideas to Try

- Use the rhyming words in silly sentences to reinforce the concept. For example, “I see Ned’s red head under the bed.”
- Use blank cards to draw pictures of rhyming words. These can be words that rhyme in English or another language.
- Work with your child to think of more rhyming words, both real and nonsense words. For example, for *sled/bed*, explore additional rhymes such as *red, head, said, or wed*, and create playful variations such as *ged* or *med*.
- For an added challenge, use the word side of the cards and have your child read each word and find its rhyming match.

Knowledge Builder

A rhyme happens when parts of words sound the same, like *cat* and *hat* or *cake* and *rake*. Knowing which words rhyme makes reading and language more fun, helps with listening and pronunciation, and builds skills in recognizing word patterns. Recognizing rhymes also improves spelling and can make writing poetry easier.