



Teaching Letter Sounds

What are Letter Sounds?

Learning letter sounds is a fundamental approach to teaching reading and spelling. By exposing young readers to letter sounds and practising them extensively until the process becomes automatic, we help them understand how letters correspond to specific sounds. Beginning with rhyming words is often a great way to start.



Make it Fun and Playful

Here are some fun and playful ways to engage your child:

- Trace the shape of the letter while saying the sound e.g. on a tray of shaving foam.
- Play games to practise letter sounds:
 - Letter sound treasure hunt
 - I spy with sounds
 - Sound sorting games



How to play



Rhyming Words

Learning rhymes is an important step in teaching children how to listen to and play with the sounds that make up words.

- Sing nursery rhymes or simple songs with rhyming words e.g., Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star, Jack and Jill, The Itsy Bitsy Spider.
- Silly Rhyme Time. Say a word and ask your child to come up with as many rhymes as possible.



- Start simple: start getting your child to learn common letter sounds, for example /a/, /s/, /m/
- Repetition is key! Practise regularly with short, focused sessions.



More Literacy Tips

Introduce One Letter Sound at a Time

- Focus on one letter sound for several days or up to a week to help your child fully grasp it.
- Find items, read books, and do activities that focus on that letter sound.



Play an online game



Beginning Sounds Game