



Tk-2 Literacy Newsletter

CORE Butte
Charter School

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Rhyme Time

Rhyming is one of the earliest literacy skills. Rhyming is when a child can recognize or create two words having the same ending sound (i.e. wish and dish) Try one of the games below to make rhyming practice more fun.

- **Erase a rhyme:** On a white board, draw 3-5 mixed-up pairs of rhyming pictures. As your child calls out a match, have them erase them.
- **Memory match:** Print out 5 pairs of rhyming pictures and cut them out into cards. Spread them out face down. Take turns flipping two over. If they are a match, keep the cards. If not, flip them back over.
- **Willaby Wallaby Woo:** Sing the song “willaby wallaby Wustin, an elephant sat on Justin.” Replace the names in the song with different members of your family.





Ways to Practice Sight Words

Sight words are words that either commonly occur when a child reads or are not words that are able to be sounded out. Practicing sight words with your child can help increase their fluency and confidence when reading. The games listed below are easy, fun ways to practice! Ask your PLT for sight word lists that you can work on.

- **Tic Tac Toe:** This game is played just like the original game. Instead of being X's and O's each person is a particular sight word such as "like" and "they." Reinforce the words by saying them aloud as you write them in the square.
- **Slap Game:** You will need a fly swatter and their sight word written on index cards. Call out a sight word and see how fast your student can slap the word they find. Try to beat your time at slapping all of the words.
- **Kaboom:** You will need an empty container, 15- 20 sight words written on strips of paper (you can repeat several of the same word) and 4 strips of paper that say "kaboom." Take turn with your child reaching in and pulling out a strip of paper. Read the word and keep the paper. If you pull out the "kaboom," you need to return all of the words you have collected.
- **Play-Dough Words:** This can be done in two ways. Your child can flatten out their play-dough and either etch the words into it with a chop stick or stamp them with letter stamps. Also, they can roll their play-dough into snakes and use it to form the letters of the word.



Apps of the Month

Letter School

Handwriting app encouraging correct letter formation



Sky Fish Phonics

A game style approach to practicing beginning, ending sounds and blending



Inventive Spelling?

What is it and why is it important.

Can you read what this says? Many of you can! This is an example of the spelling phase known as inventive spelling. This phase consists of creating words based off of the sounds they hear in combination with the spelling patterns they know. For example, the word “special” may be written as “speshl” and “different” could be written as “difrnt.”

As children are learning to write, their knowledge of sounds and spelling patterns are constantly changing. Here are the different phases you can expect to see:

Semi-phonetic: At first, they are able to spell words using just the beginning and ending sound. Cat will just be “KT” and happy may be written “HP”

Phonetic: At this stage, children are starting to write a letter for each sound they hear. Simple CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words like rat, hop, and sit tend to be spelled correctly. Other words like bake may appear as “bak.” You will also see some sight words spelled correctly.

Transitional: As your child learns more rules, such as the silent e, these will gradually start to appear in their writing. Since they still don’t have a firm grasp of all rules, you will see them attempting rules they are learning in the wrong way. If they are learning the “oa” sound, they may write “hope” as “hoap.”

Does this sound very different than how you learned to write? Many parents wonder why this is an important process to let your child go through. It provides children a chance to practice fluency in their writing. Also, it provides insight into the spelling patterns that are being internalized. Much like how learning to talk involves children experimenting so does writing.