

Station 1: Play Carpet

Directions:

Let your child select a vehicle and engage in play with them as they move around the play carpet.

Oral Language Bonus:

- Talk about the color of the vehicle
- Make the vehicle go fast or slow...left or right...up or down. Take about each of these.
- Let your child explore with the vehicle. Tell him/her what the vehicle is doing.



Station 2: Rhyme and Sort Rockets

Suggested Activities

- **Liftoff!**—Set up the rockets at a table. Place one rhyming card in each rocket stand, by the base. Lay out the remaining cards and have children sort them into the correct Rhyme & Sort Rockets. For children who are just learning to rhyme, sort with fewer rockets and fewer cards.
- **Space Race**—Give each child a rocket and lay out the cards so all children can see them. Set a timer for one minute. Have children race to find pairs of cards that rhyme, and then put the rhyming pairs into a rocket. After one minute, see who has collected the most rhymes. Add more time for children with less rhyming experience.
- **Rare Air**—Show children three picture cards (two that rhyme and one that does not). Say to the children, "Two of these words rhyme and one does not rhyme. Show me which one does not rhyme with the others." Then, have a child put the non-rhyming word into a rocket.
- **Auditory Astronauts**—Give each child a rocket. Set out three cards in front of each child. Say a word from the included list of rhyming words. Children should put picture cards that rhyme with the word into their rockets. Play continues until children are able to find rhyming matches for all three of their cards.
- **Weightless Words**—Set out one rocket without a card in the base. Lay out the cards so all children can see them. Work with a small group of children to play "stretch the sounds." Say to the children, "Listen to me stretch a word: sssssaaaaattttt. Can you find a picture that rhymes with sssssaaaaattttt?" Then have children find a card whose picture rhymes with "sat" and put the card into the rocket.



Volunteer(s): Mary Ann Garrett (Owl Hill)

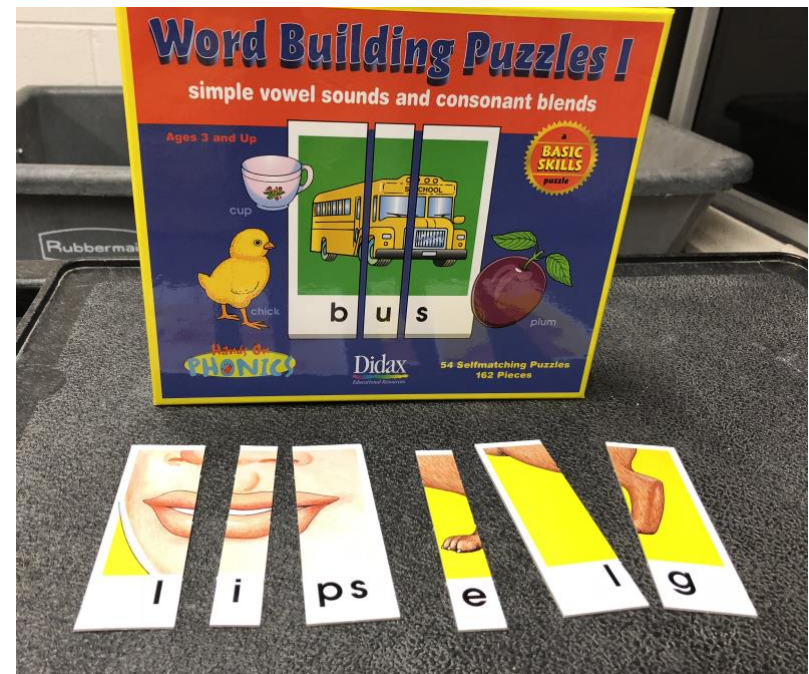
Station 3: Word Building Puzzles

Directions:

Help your child build words by matching pictures. Read the word with your child as follows: point to each letter and say its sound. Run your finger under the entire word and say the word.

Oral Language Bonus:

- What can your child tell you about the picture?
- Do they know any other words that start with the same sound?
- What colors do they see?



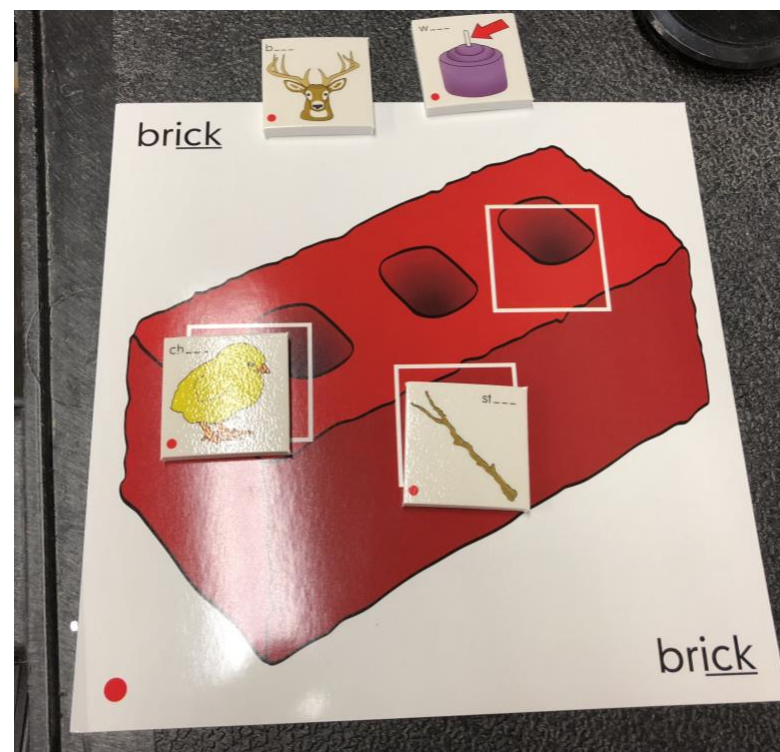
Station 4: Word Families

Directions:

Help your child find words that rhyme (same ending chunk). Note...it is normal for children to look for similar onsets (beginning sound/chunk).

Oral Language Bonus:

- Give choices and ask which word does not belong. Explain why to your child and/or have him/her explain.



Station 5: Story Telling – Felt Board

Directions:

Pick a few characters and make up a story with your child. Use transitional words such as “in the beginning,” “next,” and “in the end.”

Oral Language Bonus:

- Ask your child to move a character and dictate what is happening.
- Tell the same story, but with a new character. Help your child see this character follow the same plotline.



Station 6: Talking Through Play

Directions:

As you play with your child, use your imagination but don't forget to add vocabulary specific to the items you are using. Talk *with* your child and *to* your child. They are listening to everything!



Station 7: Positional Words

Directions:

Read the cards then use the toys to match the directions.

Oral Language Bonus:

- Use your child and items in the room. Give them a positional direction. Take a picture and share the same direction with them as they view the image.



Station 8: Big Book Reading

Directions:

Cozy up with your child as one of our helpers reads a Big Book. Grab a related object that matches the big book and model what is happening in the story with your child.

