



Wonderful Words

You probably still remember the fun you had trying to get the lines to “Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers” to come out just right. You probably didn't know you were practicing alliteration. Alliteration is a pre-reading skill that emphasizes the beginning sounds of words. Alliteration will make kids laugh and they will have fun, but they'll also build a solid reading foundation. Try some of these ideas:

- Animal Names
 - Think of an animal and give it a name like Jerome the Jaguar or Sam the Snake.
- Mystery Letter
 - Say a letter and its sound and ask your child to think of words. For example, the mystery letter is B. The child will come up with other words like balloon, boy, and blue.
- Scavenger Hunt
 - Say a word and have your child go find an object that begins with that same sound. Try this--say cow and your child can bring you a cup. Then say the words together, "cow cup."

LIBRARY TIME

Choose any book to read with your child. After reading, ask your child questions like

- Who was this book about?
- What happened?
- Where did the story take place?
- Does this story remind you of anything?

MATH FUN

Mealtime Math

There are several ways children can build math skills in the kitchen. Try one or several of these opportunities. Have children:

- Set the table
- Sort the silverware
- Count out eggs for a recipe
- Count cookies, crackers, or dry cereal

