

# RHYME TIME POST

Recognising and discriminating rhyming words (like cat/hat or sun/fun) is an important part of phonological awareness. When children learn to hear and identify rhyming words, they are practicing how to listen closely to the sounds in words. This strengthens their auditory discrimination skills which is the ability to notice small differences in sounds. This is really important for both understanding spoken language and producing it accurately. Rhyming also helps children begin to understand that words are made up of sound patterns, which makes it easier for them to learn how to break words into parts (like syllables and individual sounds) and blend them together when speaking or reading.



## EQUIPMENT

You will need:

A set of rhyming word cards (you can draw them yourself or download/print them from the internet). Example sets:

- Bee, tree, sea, tea, key
- Cat, bat, hat, mat, rat

A small post box (use a cardboard box with a slot, a basket, or an envelope taped to a wall)

## OTHER WAYS TO PLAY

Rhyming Basket Toss

- Write or place picture cards on paper balls or beanbags.
- Say a target word aloud.
- Have your child toss the “ball” that matches the rhyming word into a basket or box.

Rhyming Sound Bingo

- Create simple bingo cards with pictures of rhyming words.
- Call out words one at a time.
- Child covers the matching rhyming picture on their card.
- First to get a row wins.

## HOW TO PLAY

- Choose one set of rhyming words (5–6 words is ideal).
- Place the picture cards on the floor, spaced out so they’re easy to see.
- Go through the pictures with your child so they know what each one is called.
- Place the post box a short distance away, so your child can run to post the pictures.

Tell your child:

“You’re going to listen carefully and post the picture that rhymes with the word I say”

Say one word from the set aloud, but don’t point or look at the matching card.

Your child will need to:

- Listen carefully
- Find the picture that matches the word you said
- Run and post it in the box.

Keep going until all the words have been posted