

Phonological Awareness Onset-Rime – Classroom Activities

Onset and Rime

onset = sounds before the first vowel, rime = all the rest

Silly Sally

Children can first try making rhymes by blending a single onset to a variety of words. For example, they could play Silly Sally, where they blend /s/ to the rime of each word. The teacher names an object (e.g. *cup*), and the children change the onset to /s/ (e.g. *sup*). This might make sense (*me*, *see*; *bite*, *sight*) or nonsense (*mouse*, *souse*; *bike*, *sike*). Any phoneme could become the onset in such a game. You can play Silly Billy (onset changed to 'b'), Silly Curly (onset changed to 'c'), Silly Dolly (onset changed to 'd'), etc. You can use the Jolly Phonics picture cards to help children remember which sound they are thinking about.

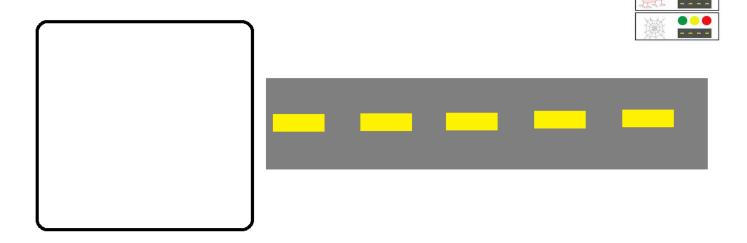
Onset-rime Slide

Children can create their own onset-rime slide and using picture cards/ objects they can start at the top of the slide with the initial sound 'c' and say the rime as they go down the slide 'at'.



Round the Race Track

Using a car track the children should say the onset of the word before moving the car and the rime as the move the car. A picture of the word or an object can be put in the empty box to support the child in remembering the word.





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Picture Rimes

Have the children sort picture cards that are from the same word family from those that are not. Ask the children to verbalise why a picture card does not belong in a word family.

Word Family Flip Books

Create flip books from the words that children collect in the same word family. CLICK HERE to find out more information about flip books.

One-Two Punch

As you say the onset, punch your left arm straight out in front of you. Then, leaving the left arm where it is, say the rime as you punch your right arm out in front. Then, say the whole word as you push both arms together. The children can follow along until they get the hang of it. Members of the class can take turns adding words from the same word families (p-at, b-at, r-at).

Bean Bag Hoops

Choose a picture card then throw one beanbag for the onset and another for the rime then say the whole word. You can use the Jolly Phonics picture cards instead of letters.

Up Up Clap

Raise one hand for the onset and another for the rime then clap them together to say the whole word.

Onset-rime Trains

Build trains using the onset for the first carriage then the rime for the second carriage. Play about with keeping either the onset or the rime the same to create strings of words.

Fishing for a Rime

Give each child a Jolly Phonic card to represent the onset. Take turns fishing to find a rime to make either a real or nonsense word.