Phonological Awareness / Playing with Sounds

Birth to 18 months

Reading Goal 66: Children demonstrate phonological awareness

Educator/Adult	Children
Reads to children from books with developmentally appropriate content and pauses, providing children time to insert the sounds of familiar words	Vocalizes familiar words when read to
Uses rhymes in stories, greetings, and directions	Recites last word of familiar rhymes, with assistance

18 months to 36 months

Reading Goal 66: Children demonstrate phonological awareness

Educator/Adult	Children
Uses reading style (e.g., pauses, providing children time to respond) where children can say the last word of familiar rhymes/songs	Completes a familiar rhyme or finger play by providing the last word
Invites children to act out a variety of tempos or speeds of sounds (e.g., clapping hands rapidly and clapping hands slowly; speaking rapidly and speaking slowly)	Imitates tempo and speed of sound

36 months to 60 months

Reading Goal 66: Children demonstrate phonological awareness

Educator/Adult	Children
Reinforces recognition of beginning word sounds (e.g., "Book begins with the "b" sound.")	Identifies initial sound of words, with assistance
Encourages children to find multiple objects in a picture with the same beginning sound	Find objects in a picture with the same beginning sound, with assistance
Points out the differences between similar-sounding words (e.g., 'three' and 'tree')	Differentiates between similar-sounding words