



Rhyme & Sort Rockets™

Phonemic Awareness Sorting Set



8 Rockets
and **80**
rhyming
cards

Bonus
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Set includes:

- 8 Rockets
- 80 Sorting Cards
- Activity Guide

The countdown is on. The mission: Launch children's early literacy skills to the stars. How do they get there? In Rhyme & Sort Rockets™, of course! Designed to teach and reinforce rhyming, phonemic awareness, beginning vocabulary, word families, and much more, Rhyme & Sort Rockets features kid-friendly spacecraft and real-life photo cards to help young learners discover all the wonders of language. Propel them into orbit with the following suggested activities and before long you'll announce, "Mission accomplished!"


















































A note about phonemic awareness and rhyming: Phonemic awareness is the ability to hear, identify, and manipulate individual sounds (phonemes) in spoken words. Phonemic awareness plays a critical role in helping children learn to read, write, and spell. Rhyming is one of the basic levels of phonemic awareness. Words rhyme when they have the same sounds at the end, such as *bug* and *rug* or *whale* and *pail*. Children should be able to listen to words and decide whether or not they rhyme.
































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.

- **Cosmic Consonants**—Give each child a rocket. Set out three cards in front of each child. Say to the children, “I’m thinking of a word. It starts with /b/ and rhymes with sat.” If children think one of their cards rhymes with the word, they raise their hands and announce the word. If correct, they can put the rhyming card into their rocket. Continue to play for several rounds.
- **Beyond Rhyming**—The preceding activities are also perfect for reinforcing beginning sounds, ending sounds, and word syllables.

Word List

 nail  pail  tail  sail  snail  whale	 brain  train  chain  plane  cane	 cake  lake  rake  snake  steak  shake
 can  fan  man  pan  van	 cat  bat  bat  mat  rat  hat	 bee  pea  tree  three  knee  key
 bed  red  bread  thread  sled	 fly  sky  pie  eye  tie	 ship  lip  clip  hip  chip

 king  ring  sing  wing  swing	 bite  kite  light  knight  white	 sock  clock  block  rock  lock
 shoe  blue  stew  kangaroo  screw  two	 four  door  score  drawer  oar	 bug  hug  rug  jug  plug



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