

Phonological Awareness

What the skill is: The ability to hear and manipulate large and small parts of sounds within sentences and individual words.

Why it is important: When children can do this, they are then able to hear the sounds within words and are more likely to become successful readers and writers. The skill level ranges from simply hearing and counting words within a sentence to phonemic awareness which allows us to hear and change sounds in a word. Practice with this is all by listening and speaking.

How is it achieved: There is series of phonological awareness skills we learn.

- Counting words in a sentence
- Combining words to form compound words
- Separating compound words

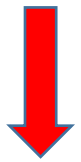
↑ Many of these skills are developed in pre-school. ↓

- Distinguishing words that rhyme
- Adding a new word to a rhyming set
- Blending words into syllables
- Dividing words by syllables
- Deleting a syllable and articulating what is left

 listening for word-sized sounds

 listening for chunks of sounds within words:

Easier



When practicing, move back and forth.

Harder



Phonemic Awareness – A **must** for all readers & writers

Identifying first sound (isolating onset from rime)

- Identifying last sound
- Identifying middle sound
- Blending phonemes
- Segmenting phonemes
- Addition of phoneme to beginning and end of a word
- Manipulating a sound at the beginning, end and middle of a word
- Deletion of phonemes at the beginning and ending of a word
- Identifying location of phonemes in a word
- Comparing the phonemes in several words to find same sounds

 listening for and playing with the smallest sound parts: phonemes