

## Animal Rhyme Time

### *Learning about language through rhyme*

Having fun with rhyme is a great way for children to learn about the sounds of language.

Many stories and poems for young children are written in rhyme. The rhyme is pleasant to the ear, and encourages children to join in with the reading or telling, using meaning and sound to predict the next rhyming word.

*Rhyming games* are always fun. In the beginning the rhymes can be real or nonsense words, training the ear to hear. Children are delighted when they discover pairs of words that rhyme. It is great when parents and teachers share their excitement too.

When children are ready, familiar rhyming texts are often the first they read independently, using a combination of memory and print. How many children do you know who first started reading with Dr Seuss?

Rhyme is also great for helping developing readers and writers make the print–sound connection, especially when teachers and children write collaborative texts together.

### *What's in this resource*

As children love animals, combining rhymes with animals is a perfect place to start.

This resource provides a list of animals with *one-syllable names and a selection of rhyming words*. The list is not meant to be exhaustive, just enough to get you started. You may wish to add any others you and your children think of.

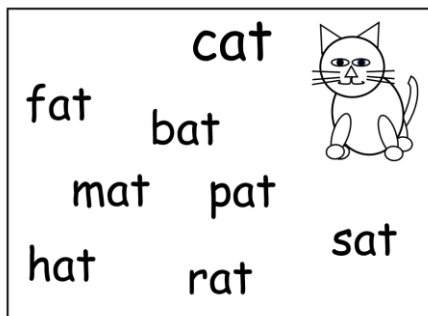
It also includes two nonsense poems to get the rhyming fun started: *Lucky Duck* and *Once was a dog*.

Be aware that the pronunciation of words may differ depending upon the part of the world in which you live, so you may not agree with all my choices. Feel free to discard any with which you disagree.

Note: The list is designed as a reference for teachers, to assist you. It is not intended for distribution or display to children

### *Getting started – short vowels*

Begin with the short vowels first. For example:



Draw a picture and write the word “cat” on the board.

Ask children to suggest words that rhyme with cat.

List the words.

Ask children to suggest a little rhyming story about the cat, using some of the words. Write the stories on the board; for example,

The cat sat on the mat and ate a fat rat.

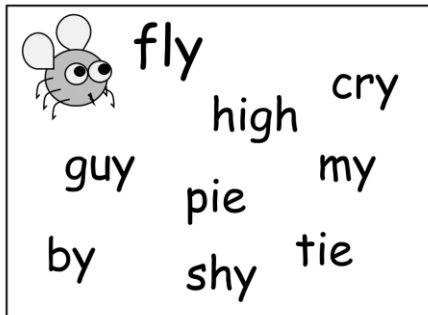
Read each story together after it is written.

Have the children write their own rhyming **cat** story, or copy their favourite from the board, and illustrate. Share.

### Developing proficiency – long vowels

As children's reading and writing ability, and knowledge of sound-print relationship increases, you will wish to introduce them to long vowel sounds, usually introducing the vowels that say the letter's name first.

While the spelling of most rhyming words with short vowel sounds is regular, there is quite a variation in spelling of long vowel sounds. Listing rhyming words and writing rhyming stories can help children develop understanding of common spelling patterns. For example:



Draw a picture and write the word "fly" on the board.

Ask children to suggest words that rhyme with fly.

List the words. Discuss the different ways of spelling the long "i" sound.

Ask children to suggest a little rhyming story about the fly, using some of the words. Write the stories on the board; for example,

The fly flew high into the sky then landed on a pie.

Read each story together after it is written.

Have the children write their own rhyming **fly** story, or copy their favourite from the board, and illustrate. Share.

Hint: List on a chart the rhyming words that children suggest and display it in the room for them to use as a reference for their writing.

**Animal names with one-syllable and some rhymes**

**Short vowels**

<b>ă</b>		<b>ö</b>	
Ant	pant, rant	Dog	bog, cog, dog, flog, fog, frog, hog, jog, log, Mog, tog, wog
Bat	at, bat, cat, fat, hat, mat, rat, sat, tat, that	Frog	
Cat		Hog	
Clam	bam, dam, ham, lamb, Pam, ram, Sam	Fox	blocks, box, cocks, clocks, cox, flocks, hocks, jocks, locks, knocks, pox, rocks, socks, tocks
Crab	cab, dab, fab, gab, jab, lab, nab, stab, tab	Moth	broth, cloth, doth, froth, goth, moth, sloth
Rat	at, bat, cat, fat, hat, mat, rat, sat, tat, that	Sloth	
Yak	back, clack, flack, hack, Jack, lack, Mack, knock, pack, rack, sack, tack, whack, Zack	Quoll	doll, loll, moll, knoll, poll, toll
<b>ë</b>		Swan	con, don, gone
Hen	Ben, den, hen, Jen, men, pen, ten, when, wren, zen	<b>ü</b>	
Wren		Duck	buck, chuck, cluck, guck, luck, muck, pluck, puck, ruck, shuck, stuck, suck, tuck
<b>ĩ</b>		Skunk	bunk, clunk, dunk, flunk, gunk, hunk, monk, punk, slunk, stunk, sunk, trunk
Fish	dish, wish	Slug	bug, chug, dug, glug, hug, lug, mug, plug, rug, shrug, tug
Pig	big, dig, fig, gig, jig, rig, tig, wig, zig		
Shrimp	blimp, crimp, limp, pimp, wimp		
Squid	bid, did, hid, kid, lid, quid, rid, Sid, slid		

**Long vowels (letter says its name)**

<b>ā</b>		Eel	eel, feel, heal, heel, keel, meal, kneel, Neil, peal, peel, real, reel, seal, squeal, steal, steel, teal, zeal
Crane	bane, cane, chain, Dane, gain, grain, lain, main, mane, pain, pane, plain, plane, rain, reign, rein, sane, Shane, slain, train, vane, vain, vein, wane, Zane	Seal	
Quail	bail, Braille, dale, fail, Gail, hail, jail, gaol, mail, nail, pail, pale, rail, sail, sale, shale, snail, tail, tale, trail, veil, wail, whale	Sheep	beep, cheep, deep, heap, jeep, keep, leap, neap, peep, reap, seep, sleep, steep, weep
Snail		<b>ī</b>	
Whale		Fly	by, bye, cry, die, dye, dry, fry, guy, hi, high, Kye, my, nigh, pie, ply, pry, rye, sigh, shy, sky, sly, sty, tie, try, vie, why, wry
Ray	bay, bray, cay, clay, cray, day, fray, gay, grey, hay, hey, Jay, lay, may, nay, pay, play, pray, prey, say, stay, tray, way	<b>ō</b>	
Snake	bake, Blake, brake, break, cake, drake, fake, flake, hake, Jake, lake, make, quake, rake, sake, shake, take, wake	Goat	boat, bloat, coat, dote, float, goat, gloat, moat, note, quote, rote, wrote, stoat, tote
<b>ē</b>		Stoat	
Bee	fee, glee, he, key, lee, me, knee, quay, see, tee, wee, zee	Mole	bole, bowl, coal, dole, foal, goal, hole, pole, roll, shoal, stole
		Toad	bode, code, flowed, goad, glowed, hoed, load, mowed, node, sewed, sowed, showed, slowed, towed
		<b>ū</b>	
		Mule	duel, fuel, tulle

Other long vowels			
Cow	bough, bow, chow, cow, how, now,	Squirt	curt, dirt, flirt, hurt, pert
Sow	pow, row, sow, vow, wow	Worm	firm, germ, perm, term
Hound	bound, found, gowned, mound, pound, round, sound, wound	Deer	beer, cheer, fear, gear, hear, jeer, leer, near, peer, queer, rear, seer, sheer, tear, tier, weir
Grouse	douse, grouse, house, louse, mouse,	Goose	goose, loose, moose, noose
Louse	rouse,	Moose	
Mouse		Boar	core, door, floor, gore, law, more, nor, pore, poor, pour, roar, shore, slaw, snore, store, tore, wore
Fowl	fowl, foul, howl, towel, vowel	Horse	course, force, Morse, sauce, source
Owl		Prawn	brawn, dawn, drawn, fawn, lawn, sawn, torn, worn
Bear	bare, bear, care, chair, Claire, dare,		
Hare	flair, flare, glare, hair, hare, lair, mare, pair, pare, pear, rare, share, stare, tare, wear		
Shark	bark, dark, hark, lark, mark, Mark, stark		
Bird	curd, furred, heard, herd, nerd, purred, slurred, word		

## Lucky Duck

Duck.

Old Duck.

Couldn't see –

Lost his glasses by the tree.



Muck.

Sticky muck.

Didn't see –

Dropped book in muck up to the knee.

Truck.

Big truck.

Zooming fast –

Splashed poor Duck as he went past.

Duck.

Mucky Duck.

Missed by truck,

But stuck in muck –

A Lucky Mucky Duck!

## Once was a dog

Once was a dog;  
Thought he was a frog,  
Sat on a log,  
Then jumped in the bog.



Along came frog;  
Looked at the dog,  
Thought it was a hog  
Mucking in his bog.

*"Hey, hog,  
mucking in my bog ..."*  
"I'm not hog.  
I'm a frog in a bog!"

Along came Cog;  
Out for a jog,  
Leading his hog,  
Cause he didn't have a dog.

Hog saw the bog.  
Cog saw the dog;  
Cog took the dog,  
Left hog in the bog.

Frog was aghast;  
Knew peace wouldn't last;  
Packed up his log,  
Got out of there fast.