

Family Connections: Word Count



Phonological Awareness & Phonics/Segmenting/Skill
* Level 1- Identifies separate words in a sentence

Did you know?

Before children can hear and identify syllables, they need to hear individual words in whole sentences. This makes sentence segmenting the first step in phonological awareness development.

Materials

Counters (any item can be used as a counter; you will approximately 4-5 items with which to count such as cereal pieces, playing cards, stuffed animals, etc.)

Preparations

None needed. Jump on in!

WHAT TO DO?

1. Share simple sentences such as "You run", and as you say each word, push forward one item/counter. Model this activity a few times and then invite your child to count each word in simple sentences you share.
2. Things to say: "Colton, I am going to share a sentence and I want you to use the beads to show me how many words you hear in the sentence. The sentence is, "Colton jumps". Show me one bead for each word. Yes! The teddy bear shows you heard the first word, "Colton" and the stuffed bunny shows you heard the second word, "jumps". Nice work!"
3. If your child is successful counting the number of words in two-word sentences, increase the difficulty and share sentences that have three-words.

