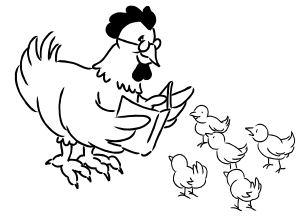




## Helping your children at home...



### Beginning and Ending Sounds

- Help your children learn to identify the sounds at the beginning of words (for example, the sound /t/ in "top" and the sound /b/ in "big"). Practice with other words and their beginning sounds.
- Help your children learn to separate sounds at the beginning of words (for example, ask what would be left if you took the /r/ sound out of "run" or if you took the /s/ sound away from "sat"). Continue with other sounds and words.
- Help your children learn to blend the separated sounds of spoken words. Ask your children to tell you what they would have if they put these sounds together: /m/ and /other/ (mother); /k/ and /andy/ (candy); and /s/, /a/, and /t/ (sat). Continue with other words.
- Ask your children which one of these words - "bag," "cat," "bike," "boat" - starts with a different sound. Practice with other words.
- Say four words that have the same beginning sound. Ask your children to listen and say the beginning sound (for example, the beginning sound is /h/ in "hat," "hop," "hit," "hand").
- Say four words that have the same ending sound. Ask your children to listen and tell you what the ending sound is (for example, the ending sound is /p/ in "stop," "pop," "cop," and "top").
- Have your children take an imaginary shopping trip. Give each child a paper bag and an old magazine. Point out pictures and objects in their magazines. If your children can tell you what sounds the names of the objects begin with, let them cut out the pictures put them into their bag. After the shopping trip is over, look at the pictures with your children and let them say the beginning sound of each object's name.