



Reading Recovery
Resources for Parents

Waiting games

Waiting has become a part of our everyday lives. The next time you hear, "How much longer?" try one of these ideas to grow your child's vocabulary with word games.

1. Start with a category such as insect words, long "A" words, food words, or sports words. Take turns naming items in the category; when the category is exhausted, begin a new one. example: ladybug, ant, spider
2. Try an alphabet search. One person names an object that begins with the letter "a." The next person names something beginning with "b," and so on.
3. Start with a simple word like "up," and take turns thinking of opposites. example: down, left/right
4. Play the rhyming game. One person says a word such as "hot," and the next person comes up with a word that rhymes with it such as "spot." When there are no more rhyming words, start a new word.
5. Say a word and see if your child can tell you (or clap) the number of syllables in the word. example: watermelon - 4 or baseball - 2. Or you can ask your child to name a 2-syllable word, 3-syllable word, etc.
6. Say a word such as "tub." Your child then has to say a word that begins with the last sound in your word (b: book). Now you have to say a word that begins with the last sound in your child's word (k: kite), for example.

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Reading Recovery® Council
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