



Communication, Language, and Literacy Activity for 36 to 42 Months

Clap A Name

This activity helps children feel special, learn the names of their friends, and how to count syllables — an important skill in phonological awareness.

Materials:

- None

What to do:

1. Explain that a syllable is a separate sound or beat in a word. "Cat," for example, has only one syllable. Illustrate by saying "Cat" and clapping one time. "Elephant" has three syllables. Illustrate by saying "el-e-phant" and clapping each beat.
2. Have the child say his name and clap the syllables as he says the name aloud.

Variation:

- Use the tune to the song "B-I-N-G-O" to clap the syllables to the children's names. For example:

*There was a girl
Who had a freckle
and Jennifer was her Name-O.
Jenn - i - fer (clap while you say each syllable)
Jenn - i - fer (clap while you say each syllable)
Jenn - i - fer (clap while you say each syllable)
And Jennifer was her Name-O.*

