**Communication, Language, and Literacy**

**Activity for 36 to 42 Months**

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**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-0.
  - 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-0.