Rhythm and rhyme activities

Clap my rhythm
Sit with your child and tell your child that they are going to listen to you as you clap a simple rhythm. Ask your child to copy you.

You could make the rhythm a little trickier by adding in more claps or making the claps faster or slower.

Ask your child to clap a rhythm and see if you can copy it!

Resources; none

Rhyme Stand up and Sit Down
Tell your child that you are going to tell them two words. If the words rhyme, they have to stand up but if the words don’t rhyme, your child has to sit down on the floor.

Here are some words to get you started:

frog/dog    car/star    sing/ring
watch/clock  ball/doll    door/floor
light/night  cow/horse    fish/dish
pug/slug     pin/bin      run/sun
zoo/lion     pears/chairs pig/wig
book/hook    tree/beehive spoon/moon
lamb/pram    pan/man      shoe/glue
berry/cherry coke/yolk    table/chair

Resources; none

Rhyme Train
Make two pretend trains with your child. Encourage your child to put their teddies on the train!

Tell your child that objects which rhyme with a rhyming word that you give your child can only go on each train.

Encourage your child to put the objects on to the train with the correct rhyme.

Resources; two pretend trains, rhyming objects or pictures
Rhyme Treasure Hunt

Give your child a box. Tell your child that you have hidden some things in the room which rhyme with a word you will give to them. Give your child the target rhyming word and tell them to go and find the objects!

You can increase the items you have hidden to 2, 3, or more.

Resources: Household items, toys.

I Spy with my little eye

Play ‘I Spy’ with your child but instead of listening for the first sound in the word, ask your child “I spy with my little eye something that rhymes with (target word)!”

Take turns with your child to find objects that rhyme with a key word.

Resources: none

Rhyme Story

Sit with your child and read a rhyming story to your child. Tell your child that certain words have the same sounds at the end which make the words rhyme. You can give your child some examples such as cat and hat.

Now read the story again pretending to work out what rhymes.

Tell your child that every time they hear a rhyme in the story, they should clap their hands.

Resources: Rhyming textbooks such as “The Rhyming Rabbit” or “Room on the Broom” or “The Gruffalo” by Julia Donaldson.

Rhyme Triplets

Sit with your child and show your child three objects. Two of these objects should rhyme leaving the third as the ‘odd one out’. Model to your child naming the objects slowly and saying the words clearly. Identify the two objects that rhyme and point to the object that doesn’t rhyme and tell your child, “this is the odd one out! It doesn’t rhyme with the other two words!”

Now put out three objects for your child to choose which one is the odd one out!

You could make this into a game where your child and your get a point for each one you get right. The winner is the one with the most points!

Resources: objects which rhyme and third objects.
Rhyme Odd One Out

Tell your child that you are going to say three words, but only two of the words rhyme.

Ask your child to identify which of the words does not rhyme.

Resources: none.

Rhyme Monster

Make a ‘Monster’ with your child using a cardboard box. Make a hole in the front of the box where the Monsters mouth would be.

Tell your child that you are going to feed the Monster, but you can only feed the Monster things that rhyme!

Tell your child to find objects to feed the Monster that rhyme with one another!

Resources: cardboard box to make a Monster, rhyming objects.

Rhyme Spell

Tell your child that you are going to make a spell in a cauldron!

Tell your child that the only things that can go into the cauldron are objects that rhyme

Resources: a big pot for a cauldron and a wooden spoon, rhyming pictures/items and some odd one out pictures or objects.

Rhyme Footprints

Tell your child that they are going to walk from one side of the room to the other. Tell your child that they can take one step forward for each rhyming word they generate.

The winner is the first to the end.

Resources: none.
**Snack Rhyme Attack!**

You could make cookie dough with your child. When the dough is made, tell your child that they can add chocolate chips to their cookie dough! Give your child a word and tell your child that every time they give you a rhyming word, they can add another chocolate chip to their cookie!

Now, as a reward, bake and then eat your cookie!

**Resources:** chocolate chips, cookie dough.

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**Rhyme Ball Pass**

Show your child a ball and tell your child that you are going to throw or kick the ball to one another while trying to think of a rhyming word each time. Each time you or your child throw or kick the ball to the other person, you give a rhyming word.

**Resources:** ball.

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**Rhyme Washing Line**

Give your child a few objects and tell your child that the objects can only go on the washing line if they rhyme with one another.

**Resources:** washing line pegs.