

Phonics

What is phonics?

- "Phonics is simply the system of relationships between letters and sounds in language." (PBS Parents)

How can I help my child develop phonics skills?

- read environmental print (street signs, product labels, store names, candy wrappers, etc.) wherever you go
- use magnetic letters or letter cards to manipulate letters and make words
- cut labels off household items (cereal boxes, Kleenex, soup labels, etc.) and:
 - sort them by first letter
 - put them in alphabetical order
 - look for blends & digraphs
 - glue them in a book that your child can then read
- write letters and words in shaving cream
- play games such as *Scrabble Junior* and *Boggle Junior*
- READ, READ, READ - expose your child to quality literature!

Children's literature that supports phonics:

- Cleary, B. (2009). *Stop, drop, and flop in the slop*. Minneapolis: Millbrook Press.
- Cowley, J. (2003). *Mrs. Wishy-Washy's farm*. New York: Puffin.
- Pulver, R. (2010). *Silent letters loud and clear*. New York: Holiday House.
- any Dr. Seuss books

