

Rhyming Tic-Tac-Toe

Focus Area: Phonemic Awareness - Rhyming

Timing: 5-10 minutes

Materials:

- Dry erase board with tic-tac-toe spaces filled in with target pictures of target words
- Dry erase marker and eraser

Procedure:

- The first student or team picks the square on the board where they want to place an “O” or an “X”
- One student from that team names the word in the target square, then gives a word that rhymes (decide ahead of time whether you will accept nonsense words or not).
- If the word is an acceptable rhyming word, the team (or student) places their letter on that square. If it does not rhyme, then nothing on the board is changed and it is the other team’s turn.
- The game continues until one team (or student) gets a tic-tac-toe or the board is full.

Variation:

- You can place words into the spaces instead of pictures. At this point, the game is no longer a phonemic awareness activity, but a phonics activity (reading a word) with a phonemic awareness component (producing a rhyme).
- To have students attend to word patterns rather than rhyming, ask them to provide a word with the same pattern as the given word.



Adapted from the University of Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts (2001)