

Words Have Families, Too!

ACTIVITY #10

SEQUENCE: PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS — PRIMARY

By the Learning Disabilities Institute (Institut TA)



Purpose of the activity

The goal of this activity is to help your child recognize that many words share similar endings when they sound alike. These words are often grouped into word families, which are a group of words that have a common group of letters with the same sound.



Relevance of the activity

This skill is essential to help your child understand the meaning of words, develop their vocabulary, but also to observe that there are units at the end of words that help you say them and write them.





If needed: examples of word families in the appendix

IT'S YOUR TURN TO PLAY WITH YOUR CHILD!

Explain the activity:



Today, we are going to focus on words in the same families.

Explain why:



Many words go together because they come from the same root word or share common letter patterns (*like and/band/land*). We say they form a word family. Finding these families helps you understand the meaning of words, expand your vocabulary, and spell them better. The more you recognize these connections, the easier it becomes to learn new words!

Explain when:



Every time you hear a word, you can ask yourself whether other words are part of the same family. Sometimes, when you don't understand a word, to help you, you can make a hypothesis about whether you know a word from the same family.

Try it together:



Did you know that, like you, words belong to a family?

A bit like members of the same family have things in common, words that are part of the same family are similar.

Here's an example: hand, band, stand. These words belong to the same family. Why do you think?

A word family includes all the words formed around a keyword or those that share the same sound. For example, in the word "hand," the keyword is "and." After that, we can think of other words that sound similar and share this keyword, such as "band," "sand," and "stand."

Can you find words that would be part of the family of the keyword "at"?

Think of a word that looks like and makes you think of the same sound... bat, hat, rat... All these words have the same base, but they have different meanings.

Can you find words that would be part of the family of the keyword: am?

Think of a word that looks like and makes you think of the same sound.... Ham, jam, slam ... All of the words contain the keyword "am," but they mean different things.



Quick tip

Encourage your child to play word detective! When they discover a new word, ask them, «Do you know a word that could belong to the same family? What might they have in common?» This game sparks their curiosity while enriching their vocabulary.





If needed, here is a list of words to explore with your child:

cab, grab, jab
bad, dad, had
mail, sail, snail
can, fan, superman
bat, rat, mat, that
ill, fill, hill, until
cap, map, clap
in, win, fin
it, bit, fit, quit
rob, sob, knob
log, hog, frog
hop, mop, top
dot, got, hot, not, knot
mad, pad, sad



