



Phonological Awareness

(with examples based on NEL K1 English Language Big Book 6 -
Big Brother and Little Brother)

Overview:

Phonological Awareness is the awareness of the sounds in English. It is important as it enables children to recognize the sounds of the English Language. It also provides a good foundation for phonics instruction. These activities aim to teach children to hear and say separate words in speech and also identify whether words rhyme. Phonological Awareness activities are carried out by focusing on the sounds of letters. The print of the letters is not introduced during these activities.

Here's an example of a Phonological Awareness activity idea based on the NEL K1 English Language Big Book 6.

Learning Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listening for and repeating words that begin with /l/ and /b/.• Identifying words that begin with the sounds /l/ and /b/.
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- Show the children pages 10 and 11 of the Big Book and ask:
How did Big Brother feel when he sat on the bed?
How did Little Brother feel when he sat at the table?
- Have the children say the word lonely and then say the beginning sound /l/.
- Ask the children to recall other words that begin with the /l/ sound.
- Make up a chant with the words, e.g., *little lonely lion*, and have the children repeat the chant. Make up actions to accompany the chants where possible.
- Check that the children are making the /l/ sound correctly with the tongue behind the top row of teeth.

- Then say, *The little boy had a big bed*. Have the children listen again and say out the words which begin with the /b/ sound.
- Make a funny sentence with a few of these words and have the children repeat the sentence with actions, e.g., *The bear reads a book on the bus*.
- Conclude the lesson by having the children tell you the sounds they had learnt. This will also give you an opportunity to check if the students have understood the lesson.