



Famous Names

What is "Famous Names" and why is it important?

"Famous Names" is an activity that helps your child develop phonemic awareness, that is, an understanding that words are composed of a series of sounds. This activity helps your child listen for and isolate the beginning sounds in words, a necessary part of reading.

How can I use "Famous Names" with my child?

Encourage your child to listen to a name that you say and tell you the sound that occurs in the beginning of the word. Your child should repeat the sound, not identify the letter. For example, if you say "Bonnie," your child should say /b/. Your child can provide another name and identify the initial sound. It is helpful to use the names of family, friends and neighbors.

You should do this activity frequently until your child is skillful at identifying beginning sounds in words.