



Echo Games



PICTURE ACTIVITY: Let's look at the picture on the front of the card. When the brothers wake up, they are thinking about their breakfast. One says "pancakes." Point to the word "pancakes." Who echoes him? Who else?

Note to Parent: These two activities make sure your child knows "echo" and can echo sounds and patterns she hears. Listening carefully is an important part of learning to read. There will be lots of echo activities to come. These echo activities are a nice gentle way to begin the reading games. Let's play!

You should have: just this card.

LESSON:

Say We are going to do an activity, called Rhythm Echo, where you are my echo. Can you tell me what an echo is?

Do Listen to your child's answer.

Say An echo repeats.
I am going to play a rhythm that takes four counts, and I want you to echo those four counts back to me. Listen closely to my rhythm so you can repeat it exactly as I play it.

Do Play steady rhythm: clap, clap, clap, clap (Child echoes.)
Encourage accuracy.

Say Let's echo some more rhythms.

Examples of more rhythms to use:

Clap, clap, snap, snap
Clap, clap, snap, clap
Clap, stomp, clap, clap
Snap, rest, clap, clap

Syllable Echo Game

Say Here's another game like the Rhythm Echo, only now I am going to use words instead of rhythms. I want you to listen to how I break this word down with my claps.

Do Clap the word mountain as you are saying it out loud. One clap for each syllable = moun-tain.

Say Listen to how I clap these words. Repeat them exactly as I do them.

Do Clap syllables of words from the list below. After clapping each word, have your child echo you. Listen for accuracy. Work through the list below.

mountain	moun	tain		breakfast	break	fast	
river	riv	er		pancake	pan	cake	
plain	plain			cereal	ce	re	al
cliff	cliff			toast	toast		
tunnel	tun	nel		eggs	eggs		
hill	hill			banana	ba	nan	a
desert	des	ert		oatmeal	oat	meal	
waterfall	wa	ter	fall	yogurt	yo	gurt	
				milk	milk		

Say Now you will get a chance to try a word by yourself, as a solo. Wait until I say the word, then you clap it.

Do Say a word from the list, wait for your child to clap it, one clap as she says each syllable. Listen for accuracy. If she makes a mistake, simply clap it correctly right after her and ask her to echo your correct version again.



Other games to try: You can play these echo games on the bus, in the car, waiting in a grocery store line or during TV ads. Clap a rhythm, have your child echo it. Say a word and let your child clap the syllables.