

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PHONEMIC AWARENESS AND PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS

There are two skills you want to know about – *Phonemic Awareness* and *Phonological Awareness*.

Phonemic Awareness is a type of Phonological Awareness. It only describes how a child hears the sounds *inside* a word or a single syllable.

All of these are *Phonological Awareness* skills

- ✓ Awareness of words in sentences (**I can ride my bike.**)
- ✓ The concept of syllables within words
- ✓ First-middle-end sounds in words
- ✓ Awareness of rhyming, which is often called 'onset-rime' (**m-at**)
- ✓ The ability to blend sounds into a word (**c-a-t > cat**) and to segment a word into its sounds (**cat > c-a-t**). *Check out the pictures below*
- ✓ The ability change or manipulate sounds in words (change **hop > hot**).

Those in **blue** are also *Phonemic Awareness* skills. *Phonemic Awareness* skills help a child to develop word reading and spelling proficiency. The other skills target bigger pieces of language like multi-syllable words and sentences.

Appropriate and complete *Phonological Awareness* instruction should include **all** aspects.