Onset/Rime Activities

Going on a Word Hunt. Read the story Going on a Bear Hunt By Michael Rosen (optional). Explain you will be going on a word hunt. Sing song – Going on a word hunt! Going on a word hunt! What’s the word? What’s the word? /m/ (pause) ap (pause), /m/ (pause) ap (pause), mmmmmmmmap, map! Repeat song with single syllable words such as light, six, man, van, no, zoo, fit.

Riddle Game Say, “I’m thinking of the animal Little Bo Peep lost. It’s a /sh/ eep.” “What is the animal?” Child will answer, “sheep”. “I’m thinking of what Jack and Jill went up to fetch a pail of water. It was a /h/ ill.” “What did they go up?” Child will answer, “hill”. “I’m thinking of an animal that likes to roll in mud and is usually pink. It is a /p/ ig.” “What is the animal?” “Pig”. You can also play this game like I Spy. “I spy with my eyes something that we sleep in. It is a /b/ ed.” “What do we sleep in?” “Bed”.

One-Two Punch As you say the onset, punch your right arm straight out in front of you. Then, leaving the right arm where it is, say the rime as you punch your left arm out in front. Then, say the whole word as you push both arms together. The child can follow along until they get the hang of it. Keep adding words from the same word families (p-at, b-at, r-at.)

Rhyme/Rimes Choose a word from a word family to begin this game. Start the game by saying the chant with the word in it, leaving off the final rhyme. The child repeats the chant and adds his or her own rhyming word at the end. Next you say the chant using the first rhyming word and then add a new rhyming word at the end. For example, if the word was car, the child would say: Car, car, the word is car. And car rhymes with _______! (star) Next the child would say: Star, star, the word is star. And star rhymes with ________! Continue taking turns until you and the child cannot think of another word in the family. Continue with a new word family (-ap, -an, -ed, -et, -it, -op, -ack, -in, -ug, -um, -ake, -ip, -am, -ore, etc.)

Interactive Websites
http://www.professorgarfield.org/phonemics/hay_loft/hay_loft.html
http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/student-interactives/construct-word-30003.html
http://pbskids.org/lions/games/smartydoors.html

More Information
Teaching children about onset and rime helps them recognize common chunks within words. This can help students decode new words when reading and spell words when writing.

-eep word family:
/sh/ eep – sheep  /s/ leep- sleep
/b/ eep- beep  /p/ eep- peep
/j/ eep- jeep  /s/ eep- seep
/w/ eep- weep  /d/ eep – deep

Books for Onset/Rime
Cha Cha Chimps By Julia Durango
Clang! Clang! Beep! Beep! Listen to the City By Robert Burleigh
Fox in Socks By Dr. Seuss
A Huge Hog is a Big Pig By Francis McCall
I Can’t Said the Ant By Polly Cameron