

October, 2017

6950 Knowledge Avenue
Rudolph, WI 54475
715-424-6784
Roxanne Filtz, Principal

THINK Academy News

From the Principal...

Happy Autumn!

It is difficult to believe that we are heading into October already! We have accomplished so much already in one month of school. It seems like the days are just flying by.

We have already finished with school pictures and our fall screener testing. We have had a fire drill and a bus evacuation drill. We celebrated our September birthdays with "Birthday Lunch With the Principal". And, a ton of learning has already happened! Whew!! We have been busy!!!

This past week we held a school wide reading event called "Harold and the Purple Crayon". After reading the story aloud in each classroom and discussing the details of Harold's imagination, the entire student body went outside to "create" our own Purple Story. Mrs. Betsy Rector (Naomi Nieman's Grandmother) is the one who donated the supplies and personally made most of the chalk for this event. Each child was given a piece of purple chalk and as a group, we transformed our playground into **THINK Academy and the Purple Chalk**. It was wonderful! I send a huge thank-you out to Betsy for her generous donation of time and materials to help our students experience some hands-on learning.

The Butterbraids fundraiser is winding down. This is a huge fundraiser for our PTS group. I thank you for your continued support of the efforts of the PTS. I am extremely pleased at the number of parents who came to our last meeting. I hope the PTS continues to grow as it brings strength to our school. Please consider attending a meeting at one point this school year. The meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 in the THINK library.

October is the month when our 5th grade students will be attending Camp Upham. This is an overnight trip for the 5th grade class. The trip coincides with the Science curriculum for 5th grade. More importantly, it is an opportunity for our 5th grade students to take part in Team Building activities and to spend time together growing stronger as individuals and as a class. Every year this is a positive experience for our students.

If at any time you have questions about what is happening in your child's classroom, please reach out to the classroom teacher first. Usually a phone call or an email can clear up some of the problems that may arise in a classroom. I am always willing to listen and help out, but the classroom teacher has the direct knowledge of what is happening in the classroom. So that should be your first step.

Although October is one of my favorite months because of the cooler temperatures and the changing colors and falling leaves, this October will be sad as well. As everyone knows, Mary Marzofka will be leaving on October 13th to begin a new chapter in her life, caring for her new grandson, Baby Jack. When I started at THINK two years ago, Mary had the office running so smoothly! Mary has been instrumental in keeping the school running smoothly and in keeping me up to speed when I am not present. As many of you know, I am only assigned to THINK as a 50% placement - although I am in the building much more than 50% of the time. When I am tending to my other position at Central Office as District Literacy Supervisor for grades 6-12, Mary holds down the fort in the office. THINK could not be successful with a part time principal if not for a strong secretary. So, that being said, I will miss Mary very much but I know she will truly enjoy the time she will spend with Jack. At the time of this newsletter, no decision has been made as to how the position will be filled. I will send home information to the families as soon as I have an answer from Central Office.

I hope you and your family find time to enjoy the outdoors this Autumn season. As the seasons change, it reminds us of how quickly time flies by. Enjoy your special moments with your children. I know I enjoy having them here everyday. Their hugs, stories and smiles are priceless!!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Filtz

So Long THINK Families...

Dear THINK Families:

This is the last newsletter that I put together for you. If you haven't heard already, I am resigning from my position as secretary at THINK Academy and my last day is Friday, October 13th. I begin my "Granny Nanny" job on October 16th when my daughter goes back to work full-time and I babysit my grandson Jack. Jack was born on July 14 and has been such a blessing for our family!

In 1995, I started with WRPS working at Central Office. In 2002, I transferred to THINK Academy (at that time Rudolph Elementary) when their secretary Carol Jackson retired. It was the best move I ever made and I will miss my job so much. However, I look forward to my "days off" when I can sub for others, volunteer in classrooms, have lunch with the kids or visit for one of the infamous classroom parties!

My time here has been amazing. Believe me when I say that I love each and every child here. They have become my own in a way. Your kids are like my kids – or grandkids! Each one is so very special and unique and they bless me daily with their hugs, candor, honesty, humor, and uniqueness. I have enjoyed hearing their fun and happy stories, sharing in their sorrows, and have been privileged to learn about their lives and their family time outside the schoolhouse doors. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your family and for sharing your kids with me! I hope when they grow up, they can think of their elementary experience with a smile on their face and that I have in some small way, help make their time at school a good one.

Back in the day, there was a popular soap-opera called "All My Children". During the introduction, pictures of a family photo album flipped page-by-page, showing the stars of the show. At the end of the clip, as the book was being closed, it landed on the last page showing a quote from the creator Agnes Nixon. It may sound a bit corny to you but these words easily describe my feelings of the kids here and simply states:

"The Great and the Least,
The Rich and the Poor,
The Weak and the Strong,
In Sickness and in Health,
In Joy and Sorry,
In Tragedy and Triumph,
You are ALL MY CHILDREN."

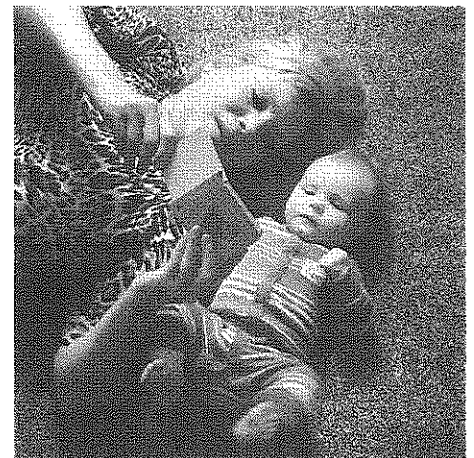
With Sincerity, Best Wishes and Love to All,



"Miss Mary"
Mary Marzofka

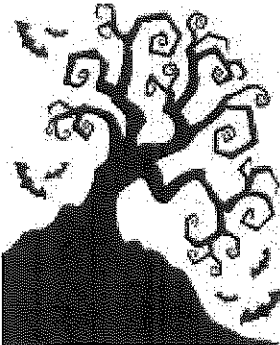


"Baby Jack"



October Dates to Remember

- 9-13 - National School Lunch Week - come eat w/your kids!
- 10 - 4K - 2nd grade visits Sparky at Fire Station
- 10 - PTS Meeting 5:30
- 10 - Cub Scouts Meeting, 6:30 PM, Legion Hall
- 11 - 3rd-5th Grade Fire Extinguisher training
- 18 - October Birthday lunch with Mrs. Filtz
- 22 - Cub Scouts Convoy - Meet at THINK 1:30-2:00 PM



- 25 & 26 - 5th Grade at Upham Woods
- 27 - Professional Development Day, No School
- 31 - Halloween Room Parties, 2:30 PM

WRPS Volunteer Process

We continue into the second year of the District's online volunteer process. Remember, the deadline to volunteer for your child's classroom activities is November 30th, no exceptions. If you applied last year and were approved, your approved status is good for three years. You will receive an automatic email when it is time to re-apply. For those of you who have not done so already and wish to volunteer, please:

- Go to www.wrps.org
- Hover over the "Community" tab
- Under the "Volunteer Opportunities" column, click on "In School Volunteer Information" link
- Scroll down to the bottom and click on the yellow/gold box that says "I want to Volunteer".

Your process will be started. If you have any questions, please call the office at 715-424-6784.

School Counselors



Leah Boon is our new school counselor for THINK Academy. School counselors are certified, specially trained mental health professionals who focus on prevention and wellness through a counseling program that meets the needs of all students, not just a few. The counseling program addresses three areas: academic, career and personal/social. School counselors advocate, mediate, coordinate, consult, lead and collaborate with teachers, administrators and parents to help students be successful.

Leah can also help with students and families to reduce barriers to education including attendance, poverty, homelessness, at-risk youth, etc. These barriers are reduced through preventative programs, connection to community resources, and through individualized services.

If you feel your student/family could benefit from any of these services or to opt your student/family out of school counseling, Please contact Leah at 715-424-6784, x 2571.

Happy October Birthdays to...

This month, the October Birthday lunch with Mrs. Filtz is scheduled for October 18th.

Happy October Birthdays to the following: Anna Gross, Adelena Hartjes, Carsen Hetze, Dylan Jeske, Harley Johnson, Fiona Martens, Khiahna Smith and Vivian Zacher.



National School Lunch Week



October 9-13 is National School Lunch Week. Please consider having lunch with your child(ren). Call the office at 715-424-6784 to make reservations by 9:15 am. Adult tickets are \$3.10. Check the attached menu to see the entrée choices for that week. Hope you are able to join us!

Halloween Guidelines for Parents and Students



Halloween is approaching and the staff of THINK Academy would like you to know that we have the following expectations for students on Halloween room party day (October 31st):

1. Costumes should be non-violent in nature. Blood, toy weapons of any kind, gore, etc are very inappropriate in school.
2. Students should be able to put on costumes by themselves in a couple of minutes. Make-up is time consuming and messy. Some classroom teachers are asking their students not to use make-up at all at their parties. Check with your child's teacher.
3. In order to keep this day as normal as possible, no party activities will begin until 2:30 pm. Please do not send your child to school in costume.
4. As always, parents who chose not to have their children participate in Halloween parties may pick their children up at 2:15, or contact the child's teacher for alternate activities for the last hour.
5. Children should not be bringing their Halloween candy to school in the days following the party.

Regarding Asthma:

If your child has asthma...please be sure to have an inhaler at school. Cold weather, illness or physical activity often triggers asthma. As we approach cold and flu season the chance that your child will have problems with asthma increases. Your health care provider can FAX an order for an inhaler directly to school at 715-435-2070. We will keep your child's inhaler in the office and administer it when needed. Providing an inhaler now can prevent an emergency situation from occurring. Thank you!



Gifted and Talent Education Services (GATES) News

My name is Tina Wallner and I am the district elementary Gifted-Talented Coordinator. I have been with the district since 2000 and spent my first 5 years as a GT Coordinator and am excited to once again have the opportunity to support students and families in this capacity! I am the principal of Grove Elementary School as well. If you have any questions or concerns regarding our gifted-talented program and the opportunities available to our students, please feel free to contact me with the information listed below. Have a great year!

Tina Wallner
715-424-6769, x-2101
tina.wallner@wrps.net

Extra Gym Shoes?!



Parents, we are looking for any lightly worn athletic shoes that your kids have outgrown that may be donated and used in PE for students who may have forgotten them on a PE day. Just have your child bring them in to Mr. Mlodik. Thank you!

Material Fees



Thanks to those who have already paid for your student's material fee. We are still waiting for some, so this is simply a friendly reminder. If there is a hardship, a payment schedule can be set up in the office, so please call if that is a concern, and be assured that everything is confidential. The cost is \$20 for each elementary student and covers agenda planners and consumable workbooks and materials. Also, as a reminder, unpaid material fees carry over from year to year and from building to building. You student may not be able to participate in graduation ceremonies if any fees are unpaid at graduation time, per District policy. Thank you.





LOCAL

October 2017 - Elementary Lunch Menu

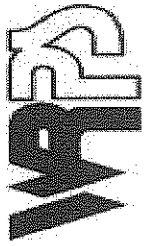
All Meals Offer 8oz Serving of Milk - Choices Include - 1%, Skim, Skim Chocolate
Menu Items Subject To Change
Cold Meat And Ham Items are Made with Turkey Meat

Daily Lunch Prices

Elementary K-5 - \$1.95
WRAMS - \$2.15 EJH / LHS - \$2.35
Adult - \$3.10
Extra Milk / Juice - \$0.35

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>2 1*Sloppy Joe / Bun OR 2*Turkey Hot Dog / Bun</p> <p>Baked French Fries Green Beans Fresh Fruit</p>	<p>3 1*Whole Grain Cheese Filled Breadsticks / Pizza Sauce OR 2*Whole Grain Turkey Stacker</p> <p>Steamed Carrots Fresh Cauliflower / Low Fat Dip Pineapple Tidbits</p>	<p>4 1*Homemade Chili OR 2*Yogurt / String Cheese</p> <p>Whole Grain Rotini Noodles Romaine / Spinach Salad / Dressing California Blend Veggies Sliced Peaches</p>	<p>5 1*Popcorn Chicken / Breadstick OR 2*Whole Grain Ham Stacker</p> <p>Locally Grown Roasted Sweet Potatoes Steamed Broccoli Fresh Fruit</p>	<p>6 1*Hamburger / Bun OR 2*Breaded Fish Patty / Bun Vegetarian Baked Beans Local Fresh Cukes & Local Cherry Tomatoes / dip Pickles Applesauce</p>
October 9 - 13 is National School Lunch Week - Watch for prizes & special menu items!				
<p>9 1*Chicken Teriyaki Bites OR 2*Crunchy Fish Sticks Brown Rice Asian Blend Veggies Fresh Local Green Peppers / Dip Mandarin Oranges 100% Fruit Juice Slushie</p>	<p>10 1*Soft Shell Pork Taco w/ Cheese OR 2*Whole Grain Turkey Stacker</p> <p>Shredded Lettuce / Local Tomatoes Refried Beans Salsa Locally Grown Melons</p>	<p>11 1*Italian Meatsauce / Whole Grain Spaghetti Noodles OR 2*Whole Grain Ham Stacker</p> <p>Corn Lettuce Salad / Dressing Sliced Peaches</p>	<p>12 Great Apple Crunch Day 1*Baked Chicken Nuggets / Bun OR 2*Whole Grain Turkey Stacker</p> <p>Sweet Potato Fries Peas Locally Grown Apple</p>	<p>13 1*Mini Corn Dogs OR 2*Honey BBQ Beef Rib Patty / Whole Grain Bun</p> <p>Steamed Broccoli Fresh Cucumbers / Low Fat Dip Sliced Peaches</p>
<p>16 1*Breaded Chicken Patty on Whole Grain Bun OR 2*Pepperoni Pizza Bites</p> <p>Vegetarian Baked Beans California Blend Veggies Fresh Fruit</p>	<p>17 1* Whole Grain Toasted Cheese Sandwich OR 2*Whole Grain Turkey Sandwich</p> <p>Tomato Soup Fresh Carrots & Broccoli / Dip Pineapple Tidbits</p>	<p>18 1*Lasagna OR 2* Yogurt / String Cheese</p> <p>Green Beans Fresh Cauliflower & Bell Pepper /dip Applesauce Whole Grain Roll Whole Grain Chocolate Chip Cookie</p>	<p>19 1*Turkey in Gravy OR 2* Crunchy Fish Sticks</p> <p>Mashed Potatoes Steamed Broccoli Fresh Fruit Whole Grain Roll</p>	<p>20 1*Portesi Whole Grain Cheese Fries / Pizza Sauce OR 2*Beef Ravioli / Bun</p> <p>Romaine / Spinach Salad Low Fat Dressing Cauliflower Mandarin Oranges</p>
<p>23 1* Cheese Omelet OR 2*Yogurt / String Cheese</p> <p>Whole Grain French Toast / Syrup Hash browns Fresh Oranges Wango Mango Juice</p>	<p>24 1* Whole Grain Nachos w/ Ground Beef & Cheese OR 2*Whole Grain Turkey Stacker</p> <p>Tomatoes / Lettuce Salsa / Refried Beans Fresh Fruit</p>	<p>25 1*Chicken Strip Wrap OR 2*Hot Ham & Cheese on Whole Grain Pretzel Bun</p> <p>Corn Sweet Potato Fries Fresh Fruit</p>	<p>26 1*Whole Grain Pizza OR 2* Grilled Chicken Patty / Whole Grain Bun</p> <p>Fresh Carrots / Low Fat Ranch Green Beans Blueberries</p>	<p>27 NO SCHOOL</p>
<p>30 1*Baked Chicken Nuggets / Sauces / Whole Grain Bun OR 2*Whole Grain Ham Stacker</p> <p>Fresh Carrots & Bell Peppers Low Fat Ranch Vegetarian Baked Beans Fresh Fruit</p>	<p>31 1*Cheese Quesadilla OR 2*Turkey Burger / Whole Grain Bun</p> <p>Taco Chips / Salsa Fresh Broccoli / Dip Sliced Peaches</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>October is National Farm to School Month! Watch for locally grown items on the menu in October & throughout the year!</p>   </div>		

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



October 2017 Breakfast Menu

All Meals Offer 8oz Serving of Milk
Menu Items Subject To Change

Grant, THINK Academy, Vesper, Washington & Woodside

Daily Breakfast Prices

Paid - \$1.25

Free / Reduced: No charge

Adult - \$1.85

W G = Whole Grain

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 W G Choc Chip Oatmeal Bar Cold Cereal Strawberry Cup Fruit Juice	3 Organic Bunny Grahams Cheese Stick Applesauce Cup Fruit Juice	4 Whole Grain Frudel Fruit Juice Fresh Fruit	5 Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice	6 W G Mini Maple Waffles Fruit Juice Fruit
9 W G Mini Cinni Buns Fruit Juice Applesauce Cup	10 Cinnamon Goldfish Yogurt Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice	11 Cold Cereal W G Graham Squares Fruit Juice Raisins	12 Whole Grain Muffin Cheese Stick Fruit Juice Fresh Fruit	13 W G Breakfast Pizza Fruit Juice Fruit
16 W G Apple Oatmeal Bar Cold Cereal Fruit Juice Strawberry Cup	17 Whole Grain Frudel Applesauce Cup Fruit Juice	18 Rice Krispie Cereal Bar Cheese Stick Craisins Fruit Juice	19 W G Scooby Doos Sun Butter Fruit Juice Apple Slices	20 W G Mini Pancakes Fruit Juice Fruit
23 Whole Grain Muffin Hard Boiled Egg Fruit Juice Fresh Fruit	24 WG Minion Grahams Cheese Stick Fruit Juice Applesauce Cup	25 Cold Cereal Bug Bites Crackers Fruit Juice Fresh Fruit	26 Fruit & Yogurt Parfait Homemade Granola Fruit Juice	27 NO SCHOOL
30 W G Choc Chip Oatmeal Bar Cold Cereal Strawberry Cup Fruit Juice	31 Organic Bunny Grahams Cheese Stick Applesauce Cup Fruit Juice			

Reading Connection

Tips for Reading Success

Beginning Edition

October 2017

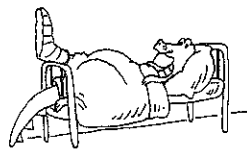
Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools

Book Picks



Read-aloud favorites

■ *Zoey and Sassafras: Dragons and Marshmallows* (Asia Citro)



Zoey discovers that her scientist mother has been helping injured magical creatures since she was a little girl. Now Zoey (with her cat, Sassafras) is following in her mom's footsteps by using science to care for a sick dragon. The first book in the Zoey and Sassafras series.

Zoey discovers that her scientist mother has been helping

■ *The Hole Story of the Doughnut* (Pat Miller)

The true story of how doughnuts got their holes starts in 1847 aboard a ship where teenager Hanson Gregory was working as a cook. Your youngster will love hearing how Gregory turned the breakfast cakes he fed the ship's crew into the popular treat.



Children around the world might speak different languages and live in different kinds of houses, but they can have the same feelings. That's the message in this colorful book that shows little ones hugging their moms, laughing with friends, and crying over scraped knees. (Also available in Spanish.)

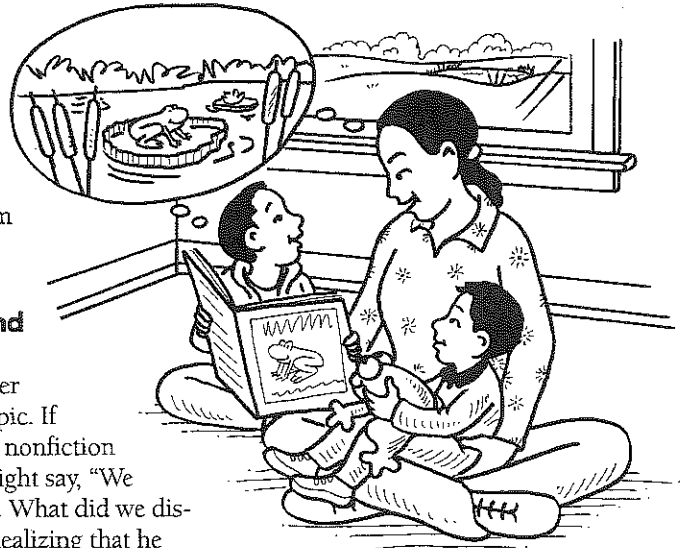
■ *Bee: A Peek-Through Picture Book* (Britta Teckentrup)

Readers learn the meaning of "busy as a bee" in this nonfiction book about pollination. Peek-a-boo holes let youngsters zero in on the bee in each bright illustration, while short, simple text explains what the bee is doing.



Begin with a book preview

Before your child reads a book, take a few minutes to do a "sneak preview" together. Knowing what to expect will strengthen his comprehension and set him up for success. Try these strategies.



Bring up background knowledge

Help your youngster relate to the book's topic. If you're going to read a nonfiction book on frogs, you might say, "We saw frogs at the pond. What did we discover about them?" Realizing that he already knows something about the subject will get him ready to learn new facts.

Tour the scenery

Illustrations offer your child clues to what might happen on each page. Let him flip through the pictures and tell you what he sees. Encourage him to make predictions by asking questions like "What do you think will happen to the fly that's buzzing around the frog?"

Take a "word walk"

Ask your youngster to point out familiar words. He'll be excited to show you what he knows. Then, call his attention to words he may not know. ("A *tadpole* is a baby frog. Can you find the word *tadpole*?") He'll be better able to recognize words and read with confidence. ♥

Strengthen writing muscles

Playing with art supplies builds your youngster's hand muscles and improves fine motor skills that she uses for writing. Consider these activities:

- Have your child roll play dough into a flat sheet and press a winding maze into it with her fingertips. Then, let her push a marble through the dough.
- Arrange small stickers on construction paper. Suggest that your youngster connect them all by drawing a line from one sticker to the next.
- Use a marker or highlighter to draw a simple picture (heart, star, smiley face) on white paper. Ask your child to trace over your drawing with a different-color highlighter. She can watch the ink blend to make a brand-new color! ♥



Family signs

Whether you're celebrating a special occasion or writing a quick reminder, displaying messages around the house is a nice way for your youngster to practice writing. Here are ideas.

Banners. Add homemade decorations to celebrations. Together, come up with a greeting, and let your youngster write each word on a separate sheet of paper. For her little brother's birthday, she might write "Look who's turning 2! Happy birthday, Joey!" Then, use tape to attach the pages to a piece of yarn, and string them up clothesline-style.



Posters. Write each person's name on a slip of paper, and take turns drawing one from a basket. Next, each family member creates a poster to hang on the door of the person whose name she chose. Your child might draw a portrait of the person and add a few facts ("Mom likes to play tennis").

Reminders. Think of helpful signs to post around the house. Your youngster may want to write a reminder that says "Please feed me!" on the hamster cage. Or your family might work together on a sign that lists activities for the upcoming weekend. ("Go apple picking." "Jump in leaves.")♥

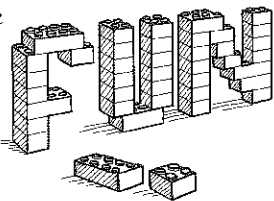


Pun with Words

Build-a-word workshop

Spelling practice gets a hands-on twist when your child uses Legos or other connecting bricks.

First, invite your youngster to build each word on his spelling list. He'll use thinking and problem-solving skills as he decides how to construct each letter.



Then, let him use the letters for spelling study. You could take turns scrambling letters for each other to put back in the correct order. Or he might display a word on a bookshelf—looking at it whenever he walks by will help him remember how it's spelled. Another idea is to take a photo of each word, print out the photos, and staple them together for a colorful study guide.♥

Parent to Parent

Bag o' nonfiction

My son Paul had a fun show-and-tell assignment recently. He had to share at least five nonfiction items to read that weren't books. The teacher said they could be anything from a parent's business card to a grocery circular.

So while we were running errands, I handed Paul a tote bag and suggested that we collect free things to read. By the time we finished, he had a takeout menu, an office supply catalog, a schedule of fitness classes, a recipe card, and an instruction sheet from the craft store.

At home, Paul spread out his items, and I helped him read a few. He was surprised by how many different kinds of nonfiction there are, and he was excited to share his finds with his classmates.

Now Paul wants to collect reading material every time we go out. His tote bag is getting pretty full, but I'm happy that he's getting reading practice.♥



Q&A Musical reading

Q I've heard that music helps children learn to read. How can I use music at home to help my daughter?

A That's true! Music offers a fun way to call your child's attention to the sounds in words, which will help her figure out new words when she reads.

Try singing familiar songs in silly ways. For instance, swap the beginning sounds in some words (change "Row, row, row your boat" to "Bow,

bow, bow your roat"). Have your daughter tell what sounds you switched (B and R). Then, encourage her to come up with a swap of her own.

Or replace a word with one that rhymes with it. Ask your youngster what rhymes with *boat*, and use the word she gives you to sing the new verse together, such as "Row, row, row your *coat*." She'll enjoy deciding how the song will change if you're rowing a coat—or a goat!♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ways to promote their children's reading, writing, and language skills.

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