

# Rhyming Words Activity Carpet

This brilliantly colored carpet is sure to brighten up your classroom—and strengthen your students' rhyming skills, too! It's the perfect spot for relaxing with a good book, or playing a rhyming game. It can even help you organize seating at circle time! The cute illustrations feature familiar images grouped in rhyming pairs. Words are included, so students can begin to recognize common spelling patterns. You're sure to use your new carpet for dozens of learning activities. Try some of the ideas below to get started!

## Activity Suggestions

### Read and Rhyme

Invite a volunteer to pick a square of the carpet to stand on. Then, ask her to identify the rhyming words on her square. Can she think of another word that rhymes with those words? If not, encourage other students to help her. Continue until everyone has had a chance to share a rhyme.

### Find a Rhyme

Have a small group of children line up at the edge of the carpet and give each child a marker, such as a button. Call out one of the words on the carpet, and challenge the first student in line to find the word, put her marker on it, and say the other rhyming word in the square. Then, have her call out a word for the second student to find. Continue until everyone has marked a square.

### Match the Word

Write each word from the carpet on a separate index card, and laminate the cards if desired. Place the cards in a paper bag and invite each child to pull a card from the bag, find the matching word on the carpet, and place the card on the word. Remind students to compare each letter to make sure the words match. Continue until all of the cards have been placed on the carpet.

When children are ready for a more challenging game, cover the words in each carpet square with a piece of construction paper. Place the word cards in the bag and see if children can match them to the images on the carpet. Have them lift the paper to see if they chose the correct word.

### Hickory Dickory Rhymes

Practice sound substitution by creating silly rhymes using the "Hickory, Dickory, Dock" pattern. Give some examples first, such as "Hickory, dickory, dail, the snail has a pail" for the *snail, pail* square, or "Hickory, dickory, dake, the snake is by the cake" for the *snake, cake* square. Then encourage children to make up their own hickory dickory rhymes using other rhyming pairs from the carpet.

### Secret Rhyme

Invite a small group to line up around the edges of the carpet so that everyone can see the squares. Give each child a marker, such as a button. Tell children that one of the words on the carpet is a secret word. You will give them clues to help them figure out which word it is. Then, give a clue such as, "The secret word is an animal. It rhymes with 'big.'" Challenge children to look at the pictures on the carpet and try to find the secret word. When they think they know the answer, have them put their markers on that square. When all agree on the correct square, say, "What animal rhymes with 'big'?" and have everyone call out the answer, "pig." To continue the game, invite a child to choose a new secret word and whisper it in your ear.

## Caring for Your Carpet

Your new carpet is a great investment for your classroom. To keep it looking its best, please follow the suggested cleaning methods given on the back of this guide.

## Suggested Cleaning Methods

**Professional steam-cleaning** is the best way to clean your carpet. Many services are available to clean your carpet for you. **Dry-cleaning** is your next best choice. It's easy and inexpensive. Simply call Customer Service at the number below and ask for information about our dry-cleaning products. **Traditional shampooing** and **self-serve steam-cleaners** are **not** recommended.

### Helpful Hints

- Do not walk on the carpet if it is wet or damp.
- Vacuum carpet daily.
- Clean carpet at regular intervals (before carpet is visibly dirty).
- Spot-clean high-traffic areas between overall cleanings.

### Storing Your Carpet

When rolling up your carpet, roll it around the tube provided. (Constant rolling & unrolling can cause the backing to crack, so do so only when necessary.) **Beware of electric floor polishers:** Electric floor polishers can be very hard on the edges of your carpet. If your carpet is in an area serviced by this kind of equipment, move it out of the way before any polishing is done.

### Spills and Stains

Absorb wet spills with a clean cloth or wet paper towel. Apply a small amount of the recommended cleaning agent to the stain (see chart below). Work from the edges of the stain to the center. Dry the area with a cloth or paper towel. For best results, remove stains *immediately*.

### STAIN

### RECOMMENDED CLEANING AGENT

Blood . . . . .	Detergent or ammonia diluted with water
Chocolate . . . . .	Detergent or ammonia diluted with water
Clay . . . . .	Detergent and white vinegar diluted with water
Coffee. . . . .	Detergent and white vinegar diluted with water
Cola . . . . .	Detergent or ammonia
Crepe paper dye . . . . .	Detergent or ammonia
Egg. . . . .	Detergent
Food coloring . . . . .	Detergent or ammonia
Glue . . . . .	Detergent or ammonia
Grape juice . . . . .	Detergent or ammonia
Ice cream . . . . .	Detergent
Ink (washable). . . . .	Detergent or ammonia
Ketchup . . . . .	Detergent
Milk . . . . .	Detergent
Mustard . . . . .	Detergent and white vinegar diluted with water
Orange drink. . . . .	Detergent or ammonia
Tea . . . . .	Detergent
Tomato juice . . . . .	Detergent
Urine. . . . .	Detergent and white vinegar diluted with water
Vomit . . . . .	Detergent and white vinegar diluted with water
Watercolors. . . . .	Detergent or ammonia

**For Customer Service, call (800) 428-4414.**