



Splash Howl Knock

Onomatopoeia [ON] - [UH] - [MAT] - [UH] - [PEE] - [UH]

An onomatopoeia is a word that mimics the sound it describes. The title of this strategy contains three examples.

Beginner: Point out any onomatopoeias you come across in your daily life.

[Tip]: Say “A cow goes moo. A clock goes tick tock. A bee goes buzz.”

Intermediate: Make a list of onomatopoeias and find as many objects which make those noises as possible.

[Tip]: Every place is different! Think carefully about which items you can find in your surroundings.

Experienced: Make a list of onomatopoeias and create a story from these words.

[Tip]: You don’t have to write down your story! It can be told verbally.

Why is this important? Learning onomatopoeias helps a child expand their vocabulary.

References: Motamedi, Y., Murgiano, M., Perniss, P., Wonnacott, E., Marshall Chloë, Goldin-Meadow, S., & Vigliocco, G. (2021). Linking language to sensory experience: onomatopoeia in early language development. *Developmental Science*, 24(3). <https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.13066>