Phonics Scavenger Hunt!

What can you do to keep your child busy that uses few materials and will actually help her review her phonics skills too? Try this phonics scavenger hunt that will keep your child hunting around any room for words that fit a given phonics skill. Try it out next time you're in a busy waiting room with your preschooler, or stuck inside on a stormy day. You can even use the magazines in the waiting room to keep the game going.

What You Need:

- Paper
- Pen
- Old magazines
- Crayons or markers (optional)

What You Do:

1. Choose a letter that your child knows the sound of. For example, you might choose the letter “B.”
2. Call out the name of the letter and encourage your child to find as many objects around the room that start with that letter as she can. For example, she might run around pointing out a bed, a broom, a blanket, a brush, and a bottle. As she finds each object, you should respond, “Yes! ‘B’ is for ‘bed’!”
3. Make a list of all of the “B” objects that your child has found. When your child finishes finding all of the objects, read the list back to her and congratulate her on finding so many objects that begin with the same letter.
4. Look through some old magazines and let your child add pictures from the magazine to the list. For example, your child might find a picture of a bowl or a bucket.
5. She can illustrate the list with any writing or drawing materials you have handy.
6. Repeat this process with other letters that your child knows.

Keep a collection of these word lists in your purse or hang them on the wall, and revisit them with your child periodically.