

- Have children choose something that they can describe well using sensory words. It can be anything from an ice-cream cone to a puppy. Then have children choose four sensory words to describe the item and write one word on each triangle. For instance, for *pizza*, a child might write "round" (sight), "cheesy" (taste), "spicy" (smell), and "gooey" (touch).
- When children have written their words, have them unfold the corners of their paper. In the center of the paper, children can draw a picture of their item and label it (see sample, right). Finally, have children fold the corners back in, so the words are displayed but the picture is hidden.
- Have children trade papers with one another, read the four descriptive words, and guess the item. Children can then unfold the corners to check their guess.



Sing About Sounds!

Introduce the concept of onomatopoeia with this activity:

- To begin, introduce the word *onomatopoeia*, saying each syllable slowly and having children repeat after you. Then explain that the term onomatopoeia refers to words that imitate sounds. Ask, "What sound does a dog make?" (*woof, ayf*) "What about a cat?" (*meow*)
- Together, brainstorm a list of additional onomatopoeic words and list them on chart paper. Include words such as *buzz*, *crackle*, *pop*, *crunch*, *whisk*, *loop*, *boom*, and *splash*. Next to each word, write the name of something that makes the sound (for instance: *crunch-carrot*; *crackle-fire*; *loop-car*).
- Now it's time to put your words to music! Sing this song to the tune of "Old McDonald Had a Farm." For every verse, insert a new child's name and a new object and sound, such as *rubber bandaging*, *hydroplaning*, *breaststroke*, and *flowering*. Use objects and sounds from your list, and work together to come up with more as needed. As an extension, invite children to write or dictate a short story including as many sound words as they can.

Young (child's name) wrote a story, E-I-E-I-O.
 And in this story there was a **horn**, E-I-E-I-O.
 With a **toot-toot** here, and a **toot-toot** there,
 Here a **toot**, there a **toot**, everywhere a **toot-toot**.
 Young (child's name) wrote a story, E-I-E-I-O.