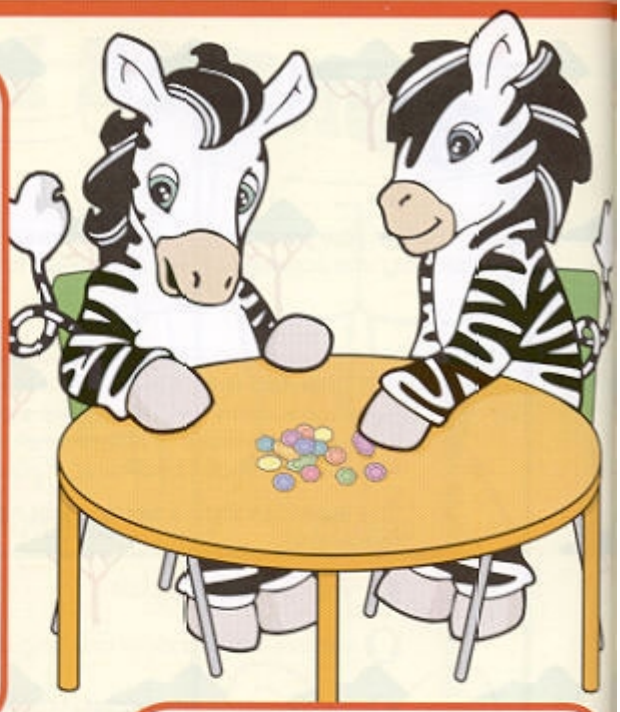
### Dazzling Diamonds

Direct your little darlings to divvy up a collection of "diamonds" as they **listen for the sound of *d* during a reading** of Pamela Duncan Edwards's *Dinorella: A Prehistoric Fairy Tale*. In advance, purchase a bag of plastic jewel shapes (for crafts) from your local discount store. Working with one small group of students at a time, place the jewels in the middle of the group. Slowly reread a passage from the book and instruct youngsters to take a diamond from the pile each time they hear a word that begins with the sound of *d*. After the reading, have students count their collections and see whether their totals match one another, as well as your correct number. As students return their diamonds to the pile, have them recall the *d* words they heard. Repeat the activity several times, reading a different passage each time. "Dino-mite!"



### Beach Fun for Everyone

What would happen if the zoo animals took a beach vacation? Ask your students to ponder this question as you read and **enjoy the alliterative text** in *Six Sandy Sheep* by Judith Ross Enderle. Afterward, call out a group of words from the story that begin with *s*. Ask students to **name the sound these words have in common**. Now give each child a sheet of paper and have him choose an animal from the zoo. Have the child describe the animal and tell what it does when it visits the beach—**using words that begin with the same sound as the animal's name**. For example, happy hippos might hop around the beach, or mischievous monkeys might march down the beach. Write each child's dictation on his paper and then have him illustrate his sentence. When youngsters have finished, invite them to share their work with their classmates.



Phoneme Matching Phoneme Matching Phoneme Matching Phoneme Matching Phoneme Matching Phoneme Matching Phoneme Matching Phoneme Matching Phoneme Matching Phoneme Matching