

Alphabet Activities

Alphabet Skills:

Letter Recognition, Letter Naming, Letter Matching, Alphabet Sequence

“Look and Say” Card Activities: Letter names or sounds

Alphabet Arc/Letter Sequencing: Child builds alphabet on the arc using plastic letters. Use a model alphabet for reference. This comes from the Reading Readiness book by Neuhaus Education Center. Alphabet Arcs can also be found online.

Alphabet Bingo: Begin with letter names. Later on, Bingo with letter sounds.

Alphabet Match: Match upper and lower case magnetic letters. Then go through and name letters and if appropriate say the letter sound.

Guess My Name: Put one foam or plastic letter in a cloth bag. Child identifies letter in bag by feel only...no peeking! For a group, child describes what he is feeling as the rest of the group tries to draw what is being described and to guess the letter.

Put It In Order: Put 26 letters of the alphabet on the table. Child sequences them, using a model or not, depending on skill level. Later put 22 or 23 letters on the table. Child needs to sequence leaving spaces for missing letters. Then child needs to tell you which letters are missing. The goal with these activities is to be able to accomplish these tasks without going back to the beginning of the alphabet and singing the song.

Alphabet War: Write one letter of the alphabet on each of 26 index cards. Use red marker. On another set of 26 index cards, write one letter per card using a different color marker. Play like the old card game of war. You can change the rules of the game to suit skill level. For example, the person who turns over the letter closest to the end of the alphabet takes the cards. A second way: the person who turns over the letter closest to the beginning of the alphabet takes the cards. The most difficult: The person who turns over the letter closest to the middle of the alphabet takes the cards. In time children should be able to play without referring to the alphabet chart.

Same and Different: Each child has one card with 2 circles on it, side by side, and another card with 1 circle and 1 star on it, side by side. Talk about concept of same and different, trace the shapes, and talk about why the 2 circles are the same and 1 circle and 1 star are different. Show pairs of pictures...Are they the same or different? Show some picture pairs that are the same and some that are different. Listen for same and different. Teacher makes two sounds...clap, clap...are they the same or different? Clap, snap...are they the same or different? Snap, snap...are they the same or different? Then teacher makes two or three sounds under the table so students have only auditory input, no visual...are the sounds the same or different? Later you can use 2 pictures and asked children to listen for beginning sounds, or ending sounds, or medial consonant sounds...are they the same or different?

Just Say a Part: Teacher says a sentence. Child repeats the sentence. For each subsequent sentence, instruct the child to leave off the last word and continue until there are no words left. "The dog ran away""The dog ran""The dog""The"

Alphabet Picture Dominoes: Play like regular domino game. Each domino has pictures and words on it. Game 1...pictures beginning with beginning alphabet letters. Game 2...Pictures beginning with middle alphabet letters. Game 3...Pictures beginning with ending alphabet letters.

Fishing for Letters: Print lower case letters and cut out, tape a paperclip beside each letter. Tell the student what letter to fish for by telling the name of the letter or the sound the letter makes. The fishing pole can be a store bought magnetic pole or you can make one by attaching a long piece of string to a dowel rod. Then tie a magnet to the end of the string.

What's Missing?: Give student alphabet strips. Cover up 2 or more letters. Have student tell you which letters are missing.

Sing ABC song: Start at different letters.

- Teacher sings ABC song, stops at certain letters to have students fill in the next letter.
- Do ABC song clapping at all vowels.
- Sing ABC song with the usual tune. Sing ABC to tune of Old MacDonald Had a Farm.

ABC Lineup: Give every student a letter to hold and have the students line up in ABC order.

“I Say It, You Say It” activities