



Alphabet

Recognition

Preschool Parent Meeting



Learning the Alphabet

- Learning the alphabet is fundamental for learning to read.
- Without firm knowledge of letters, children will have difficulty with all other aspects of literacy.



What is Alphabetic Knowledge?



- Letter name knowledge
- Letter shape knowledge
- Letter sound knowledge
- Ability to print letters
- Rapid letter naming



First Step... Alphabet Song

- **What is a child really learning by saying or singing the names of the alphabet letters:**
 - **There are many (26) letter names.**
 - **Letter names are special. They are different from other words or names.**
 - **Letter names are not the same as counting numbers.**
 - **Letter names are important. They are talked about and used in many different situations.**



Teaching the Alphabet Letter Names

- **With very young children, learning must be fun and interactive. Following are a few ideas for teaching the letter names.**
 - **Make up a tune to say the names of the letters in your child's name. For example, a five letter name fits well to the tune of "BINGO" and a seven letter name can fit to "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star".**
 - **Read an alphabet chant book. A good example of this is "Chicka Chicka Boom Boom" by Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault. Encourage your child to chant the names of the alphabet with you.**



Learning Letter Shapes

- Learning the letter shapes is a lot of work! There are two shapes for each letter (uppercase and lowercase). These can be written in different sizes, fonts, handwriting styles, etc.
 - Play games and alphabet activities with the letters and have fun.
 - Teach both the uppercase and lowercase letter shapes.
 - Introduce children to letters in different fonts.



Alphabet Activities

- An ABC Mat is super handy to have on hand when your child is learning the alphabet! Try an active [ABC mat learning game](#) to get them really involved!
- By singing the ABCs the child can find his way through an [alphabet maze](#)! Use vehicles or a ball, or even a doll to walk their way through the maze.
- [Squirt the Letter](#)
- Make learning magical with [magic letters](#) that the kids reveal as they paint over them.
- Do a [letter search and find](#) and match the pieces back together.



Alphabet Activities

- Along the same lines, make an alphabet discovery bottle and have your child mark off the letters as they find them.
- Get creative and have her feed the monster letters as you call them out.
- Use sticker letters to match to letters that you write on a paper towel tube!
- Make letters from pipe cleaners.
- Have fun stacking letter tiles! The catch? Name the letter before you can add it to your tower!
- Try a magic trick with a ABC cup hunt game! Which one is the pom pom under?



Alphabet Activities

- **Find the letter and trash it!**
- **Bean bag toss into a letter tub that you call out.**
- **A twist on musical chairs, play musical alphabet and identify the letter you stop on!**
- **Fish for Letters Can you identify your 'catch'?**
- **Letter "I Spy" with Grown Up Board Games**
- **Make these simple 'building blocks' so your child can build a letter and then tell you what it is!**



Alphabet Activities

- Write the alphabet on the sidewalk and water the 'garden'.
- Magnetic letters matching
- Simply make it a race! Lay out some letter cards and shout out a letter, have your child run as fast as they can to find it and bring it back to you.
- When in the car and traveling, do an alphabet hunt.
- Let the children play on a typewriter, or old computer keyboard.
- Baking the alphabet.
- Another use for the ABC Mat is to play twister!



Most Importantly...!

**Make learning the alphabet
fun and interactive
for your child.**

**They don't even have to
know they are learning...
disguise it as a fun game or
activity!**