### Video 1

Video 2

## **Alphabet Crazy Fun**

Handouts

## Alphabet: Kk Lesson

By Chelsea Mytko

This is an example for explicitly teaching one letter of the alphabet using playful strategies! Starting with the letters in your child's name can help your child make a connection to the learning, and in the end make learning more enjoyable! When possible, reinforce the letter name AND the sound in makes. Remember to always stop or take a break if your child is not enjoying the process.

Getting started:

Have all supplies ready to go

Introduction to letter (Kk). Auditory strategy
1) Open by singing the alphabet song together
2) Teach the letter of the day by drawing an upper case K and lower case k on a whiteboard or paper. Say the letter as you write it.
3) Draw a kite beside the letters. K says /k/ like "kite". You can say a little song: K says /k/, K says /k/, flying kite, flying kite, /k/, /k/, /k/!

Visual strategy 1) Show 3 cut-out letters from magazines or newspapers. Say the letters as you point to each. Then ask your child to point to the letter Kk.

2) Give your child a bright piece of paper with the letter Kk, a glue stick, and a pile of cut-out letters. Have them sort the letters by gluing only the letter Kk's on the paper. Every time they glue a letter, have them say the name or the sound it makes. Next time, you could have them help cut out letters!!

Nutrition break and optional snacky Kk! 1) Use fishy crackers (bunnies, teddy grahams etc.) to trace an upper case and lower case letter Kk (have a Kk template made up). 2) Enjoy the snack together with some water or milk! Maybe have a little walk or dance break too. This is a great time for one of Jack Hartmann's alphabet songs!

Kinesthetic strategy 1) Using a letter Kk template, have your child work their hand muscles by squishing and rolling playdough snakes to make the upper case and lower case letter Kk.

Writing/Drawing strategy
1) Using a letter Kk template and a variety of colourful markers or crayons, have your child "rainbow write" over top of the letter. This means they get to trace with one colour then pick another. They can continue until they have a beautiful, colourful piece!
2) If they would like, they could flip the paper over and draw something that begins with the letter Kk.

Of course, there are letters everywhere and you can continue practicing the letter Kk at the grocery store, on a walk around the block, and even in your backyard! One of my favourite things to do is to make alphabet letters using natural items outside. Your child could make the letter Kk with sticks, rocks, or leaves!

Have fun!!

## Mrs. Mytko's favourite alphabet resources

## Favourite YouTube channels and songs

Jack Hartmann – He does hundreds of learning songs including some great alphabet songs which include sign language! This is his YouTube channel: <u>https://www.youtube.com/user/JackHartmann</u>

Some of my favourite Jack Hartmann songs include: Animal Alphabet Moove and Groove: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTb4Dkyt2pA&list=PLQK2XiUY9C2gTWmzCpvCsaaDSaouXw8f8&index=1</u> Workout to the Letter Sounds: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VFa0b\_IIRac</u>

**Miss Molly** – She has so many wonderfully joyful and calm songs to help children learn letters, numbers, sight words and more! This is her YouTube channel: <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCs5BAp78NOWx0V6d\_Dq4IIw</u>

Some of my favourite Miss Molly songs include her letter specific songs as well as her alphabet song: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mj8y8Gaz6xQ&list=PLu2eu2ZZMw-AACMyQ22oYTplC\_iSej7gf">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mj8y8Gaz6xQ&list=PLu2eu2ZZMw-AACMyQ22oYTplC\_iSej7gf</a>

**ABC Mouse** – Again, so many learning songs! Their songs are very upbeat and will have your little one grooving! Here is their YouTube channel: <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMYiUkvAckoKbbx8FXTOrnA</u>

#### Favourite websites

There are many websites that provide free printables for alphabet games and activities. There are also some sights that have interactive digital games for free. I have listed some of my favourites below.

Interactive digital games available at **www.education.com** you can find them directly using this link: <u>https://www.education.com/games/alphabet/?gclid=CjwKCAjwxuuCBhATEiwAIIIz0QSynBoHHE3sJmf4AgKXTaznIOz3IQd</u> <u>UOEffyqJ1eDHnJNT2uE08hBoCm0cQAvD\_BwE</u>

Printables and active game ideas at:

This Reading Mama: <u>https://thisreadingmama.com/101-alphabet-activities-printables/</u> 123homeschool4me: <u>https://www.123homeschool4me.com/alphabet-printables/</u> Fun learning for kids: <u>https://funlearningforkids.com/alphabet-activities-list/</u> PreKinders: <u>https://www.prekinders.com/alphabet-printables/</u> A dab of glue will do: <u>https://www.adabofgluewilldo.com/alphabet/</u>

## Alphabet games at home

By Chelsea Mytko

#### Ninja letters!

Has your child ever wanted to be a ninja? Well now is the time! Here is what you will need: letters taped/tacked low on the wall, optional ninja headband (I like using ties)! Find a long wall (hallways are best) where you can attach letters to the wall. We want these low so your child has to roll or crawl. Call out a letter and have your child move like a ninja to the letter and slap it. Then they can tell you the letter again along with the sound it makes and a word that begins with that letter (Bb, b says /b/, bat).



From WebStockReview

#### Hide-a-cup

All you need for this easy game is a few cups that you can't see through, masking tape, a sharpie or marker, and something special to hide under a cup.

First, write the letters your child has been working on on the top of the cups using a sharpie. Take turns hiding the special item under one of the cups while other players close their eyes. Then, take turns pointing to a



cup and saying the letter/letter sound/word that begins with that letter. Flip the cup over to see if anything was hiding. Play until you find the item, then hide again!

#### Kaboom!

Simple is sometimes best! For this game, you can use popsicle sticks (or anything you can write on like rocks, cubes, pieces of crumpled paper). Write the letters that your child has been working on on the edge of the popsicle sticks (I like to do upper case on one side and lower case on the other). Have a few of each letter. Then, write the word KABOOM

on a few of the popsicle sticks. Place these in a cup (letters facing down). Take turns pulling a stick and saying the letter/letter sound/a word that begins with that letter. If you get KABOOM, all of your sticks have to go back in the cup!!



#### Bowling

Bowling for letters is so much fun! We combine some physical activity with learning letters (always a good combination)! For this game you can use plastic bowling pins if you have them or simply some plastic cups. Add letters to the top or sides of the cups with masking tape and a



sharpie. Find anything to use for a ball (crumpled paper, toy ball). Take turns rolling or throwing a ball at the targets. When you knock a target over, run and grab the target. Say the letter/letter sound/a word that begins with that letter. Replace the targets for the next player.

#### Memory

This classic game is still a favourite! You can make memory cards using construction paper, felt or foam! Use the letters your child has been learning and write two sets of each letter on the cards. Mix them up,

turn them upside down and you are ready! Take turns flipping over 2 cards. Say the letter/letter sound/a word that starts with that letter for at least one of the letters you flip over. If you make a match, you get to keep the cards! Play until all matches have been found.



# 1

### **Shaving Cream Writing Bags**

### Purpose

The **sensory writing bags** are a great alternative to giving children pen and paper while they practice printing their letters. Cookie sheets are ideal for learning letters with shaving cream. It becomes an engaging, playful and multi-sensory experience for your child - and the clean up is not a huge chore!

### Resources Required

• A large Ziploc bag or a cookie sheet, shaving cream, food colouring, and Q-tips.

- Use about 2 cups of shaving cream for these 30cm x 20cm bags, just enough to have it completely cover the inside surface. Then add about 2 tablespoons of food colouring to the bag before removing the air and sealing the Ziploc bag completely. Ask your child to start carefully massaging the bag so that the colouring mixes with the shaving cream. You can use more than one colour and have your child experiment with mixing colours - a little science lesson added to the literacy fun!
- Pile shaving cream in the middle of the tray and have your child spread it out evenly. Printing letters with their fingers in the shaving cream will add another rich layer of sensory delight to the activity.

#### Variations

- Use dirt or sand in the tray and use a stick to make the letters.
- <u>https://youtu.be/NM-KbR6ICDE</u> A video for more shaving cream writing ideas.



### **Race Time Dinosaur Game**

### Purpose

Teach letter identification and letter sounds.

### Resources Required

• Print the editable board game board from the site given below, or draw your own on paper, or use the game online with your children.



- Dice.
- <u>https://www.bingobongokids.com/product/abc-to-xyz-upper-case-alphabetenglish-race-time-game-1/</u>
- <u>https://funlearningforkids.com/editable-dinosaur-theme-board-game/</u>

#### Instructions

• Students will roll a dice, move it that many spaces, land on a word and identify the beginning letter and its sound. This game can also be played online with dinosaur icons.

## 3

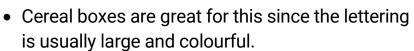
### **Kitchen Cabinet Hunt**

### Purpose

Practice with the sounds and the names of the alphabet letters while demonstrating to children that words are always all around them.

### Resources Required

• Letters of the alphabet (on flash cards, magnetic, cardboard), and your kitchen cabinet grocery items,



- Spread the alphabet letters out on the kitchen table or counter. Ask your child to choose a letter, say the name of the letter and then say the sound the letter makes (usually at the beginning of a word). Have them find words on any of the containers in the cupboard that start with the identified letters.
- Go to the cupboard together and find something that starts with that letter such as *b* for *box* of cereal or *banana* or *bag* of rice. Have them partner the letter and the object on the table.
- After you have partnered as many as you can, have them go through the different items to practice sounds and names.



#### Variations

You can change this activity by turning it into an I Spy game in any room in the house or in the yard. For example, "I spy with my little eye something whose sound begins with . . ." Reverse the activity by starting with that object in the room and asking your child to find the alphabet letter that starts its name.



### **Bubbly Literacy**

### Purpose

Practice rapid naming of alphabet letters. Speed with recognizing letters and sounds quickly plays a role in memory and fluency.

### Resources Required

- Bubbles: a good recipe for making large, strong bubbles at home can be found at: <u>https://www.homesciencetools.com/article/how-to-</u> <u>make-super-bubbles-science-project/</u>
- Cards with alphabet letters or any collection of letters

#### Instructions

• Write letters on cards or cut out letters or sets of letters. Have your child pick a card or letter and identify the letter by sound and by name.



- You blow bubbles as your child races to pop as many as possible while naming either the letter or the letter sound every time a bubble is popped. Lots of bubbles? Lots of practice!
- You can also say a letter and have them busily popping the bubbles while telling you the letter sound.

A good rule of thumb is to use the letters that your child has already mastered, plus a few new ones. For example, for a child who knows only a few letters of the alphabet you will want to start slowly. The key here is to build their confidence steadily; that way, they may be more willing to take risks with new learning challenges. Add more letters as your child masters the alphabet.



### The Great Cookie Alphabet Mystery

### The Bureau of Delicious Investigations

The family's cookies have gone missing!! A crime has been committed, and we have hired the top detectives in town to help solve the mystery. We need help and keen observational skills to study the clues and find the top suspect.

Imagine the feeling of losing the chewiest, most chocolatey cookies you could dream of. Please accept our challenge and bring justice to this kitchen catastrophe! You can start by making cookies with the children and then staging a theft with great dramatics. Together you and your child will solve the GREAT MYSTERY!

### Purpose

Practice identifying beginning letter sounds while also fine tuning observational skills.

### Resources Required

- Yummy fresh cookies,
- A collection of 'stuffies' each with its own loot bag,
- Lots of objects that start with a variety of letters,
- An imaginary magnifying glass.



#### Instructions

- Parent "detectives" gather a series of clues, and then bring in some prime suspects. Here, parents set up some 'stuffies' who are the suspects, each with their own bag of loot. The detectives then set them all up on the sofa. Inside each bag, the parent has secretly put several objects and has kept track of the beginning letters of each item. Make sure one bag (the guilty party) has objects that begin with letters you are not going to use.
- Read the clues one at a time, such as "it begins with b (banana, bib, ball, bell). The child goes through bags pulling out objects that begin with the letter b.
- Use the clues to eliminate objects and suspects until it is clear that the suspect who took the cookies is the only one left.

CASE CLOSED! Happy ending? Have a 'stuffie' party when the suspect whispers to you where the cookies are? Your choice!

#### Variations

Have your child lay objects on paper and print the beginning letter of the items beside them in big felt pen letters. Find the letters in books. Make up more words that start with that beginning letter.



### **Parachuting for Literacy**

### Purpose

Practice letter knowledge while playing with a homemade parachute.

### Resources Required

- Plastic bag and string or ribbon,
- Scissors,
- Light weight parachute rider such as a Lego person or plastic toy.

### Instructions

• Parent Cut a square out of a plastic bag. Put a hole in each corner of the square and tie a piece of string or ribbon through each hole. Tie the other ends of the strings or ribbon to your parachute rider. Ready for some parachuting!

- Place target items on the ground using pieces of paper or draw chalked circles. Toss your parachute from a bit of height, perhaps off a deck, down a hill, or from a chair.
- Remember safety first when choosing a launch point! If your parachute lands on a letter, identify the name or sound of the letter.
- An extra challenge? Have the child check the surroundings to find and name an object that begins with the same letter.

## 7 Soaking Literacy

### Purpose

Practice letter knowledge while breaking rules by deliberately getting messy or wet!

### Resources Required

- Water-gun or clean spray bottle,
- Water,
- Paper, pencil, or felt pen,
- Tape or string.

### Instructions

• Print chosen letters on cards or pieces of paper. Tape or string up the papers in an outdoor area. On separate cards or small pieces of paper, print the same letters and put them in a pile. With your child's spray



device fully loaded with water, you are now ready for some wet, messy fun!

- Have your child flip a card, identify the letter and letter sound and then race to find the matching paper hanging somewhere. When they find one, they blast it with squirts of water and think and say other words that start with the same letter. Then they return, flip another card and carry on with the delight of this squirting game!
- Make it a timed game: they have to see how much faster they can finish the course.
- Make it an obstacle race where they also get some physical exercise having to crawl under and over various hurdles.



## Beginning Sound Hunt Using the Child's Name

### Purpose

Connecting objects with their beginning sounds and building your child's understanding of the connections with the letters in their names.

### Resources Required

- Camera
- Pencil and paper
- Colouring supplies



#### Instructions

- Have your child think of the beginning letter of their name. Talk about that letter. What sound does it make? Have them look for items in and around the home that begin with the same letter. e.g. Haylee, hairbrush, headband, house, hand, hat,
- Give your child a camera to take pictures or paper to draw the items they found. They can then label their items with their special letter.
- Encourage more practice by having your child share their connections with a family member later in the week.
- Adapt this to use as a birthday party game activity with friends.

### Scavenger Hunts

### Purpose

To recognize that alphabet letters are all around us.

Resources Required

 Link to free alphabet chart: <u>https://kindercraze.com/alphabetchart-freebie-andsale</u>

#### Instructions

- Write, or have your child write letters on pieces of paper. Place them all over the house, even outside.
- Give your child a list of letters that they are searching for; when they find a letter on the list, have them say the letter, the sound, and a word that begins with that letter.
- Check it off or print it on a recording sheet. There could be prizes for, say the first 5 words, then the next 5 words. Checking boxes is good, but simple, tangible rewards are even better!

### Variations

Ninja crawl: Place the cards low to the ground - taped to the underside of chairs, beds, or tables so that the kids have to ninja crawl and roll around to find them. Use a flashlight or lantern when it is a bit darker to hunt for and find the letters and words. The letters and words could carry a theme such as Hallowe'en or Christmas words. Speed round: See how fast you can find the letters and words using a timer. Try to beat your own time.





### **Balloon Pop**

### Purpose

Put some fun and excitement into learning letters

Resources Required

- Water balloons
- Chalk

- Find an area outside where you can write with chalk. Write the letters that your child is working on inside a circle.
- Blow up and fill the water balloons and use the filling time to build excitement and anticipation. Gather the water balloons in a pail and get ready for a lot of fun!
- When you yell out a letter: 1. Your child first has to say a word that starts with the letter. 2. They have to draw the letter in chalk. 3. They have to indicate the letter by throwing a water balloon at it.
- Finally, while attempting to pop the balloon, they must call out the letter. If the balloon doesn't break, they have to throw it repeatedly until they are successful. Sounds like a great excuse for permission to throw a lot of water balloons!



### Variations

To up the excitement, pin the letters on your own clothing and make yourself the living target! Just a small sacrifice of a little dignity all for the cause of learning, right?

End with a letter water fight just for good measure. Make up your own rules!



### Alphabet Toy Hunt

### Purpose

To use your child's everyday toys to turn them into a busy alphabet hunt

### Resources Required

- Any set of toys such as Lego, blocks, plastic dinosaur sets, plastic doll collections,
- Erasable felt pens,
- Scotch tape,
- Cut up pieces of blank paper.

#### Instructions

• Without your child's knowing, gather a set of their favourite toys. Either write alphabet letters on the toys with wipe-off pens, or tape alphabet

letters to them. As a surprise, have the activity on hand when they are ready for alphabet practice.

- Hide the toys under and behind things.
- Have your child find the toys one by one while magically discovering the letters. They then have to say the letter, say its sound, draw it, find it in books, in the room or in their name. You can wait and do all the naming later or one by one. Marking their chart successfully and perhaps a small reward would reinforce success.

### Variations

Find or make a wee shoulder bag for each of their stuffies and cut up tiny letters to leave in the bag. They can practice the letters as they play with their stuffies. Bury letters in bowls of rice or in a tray of sand to be found as they dig for them saying the names and sounds of the letters as each letter is discovered. Pin letters on their clothes for the entire day with an expectation that they will know them all by suppertime.





### Windows and Letters Everywhere!

#### Purpose

To draw attention to alphabet practice in unique ways that will motivate children

### Resources Required

- Any washable felt pens,
- Water-based paints,
- Windows anywhere in the house or garage,
- An alphabet model or sample to copy.

#### Instructions

- Work with your child to study the shape of an alphabet letter.
- Encourage them to take care copying it and printing it on the window; use different colours and sizes.
- Move from window to window, filling the windows with letters.
- Block the window frames off with tape first to avoid getting the colour on them.

### Variations

Leave the letters on the windows for a week so your child can practice and show off with other family members. Later in the week, circle the letters with a black pen as they master them (as described on the checklist in Chapter One, Part Three). Be sure to check off all their successes and celebrate!



### **Glitzy Bottle Shake**

### Purpose

To create ways to make letter hunts more exciting

### Resources Required

- Empty water bottles
- Beads or hard paper bits with letters on them
- A jar of glitzy powder mixed with rice or dry sand
- Newspaper and felt pens

- Mix the glitz, sand, rice, beads or pieces of hard paper and fill the bottle with the mixture. Be sure the lid is screwed on tight.
- Cover the table with newspaper.
- This can be a quiet activity while you are busy at other tasks. Show your child how to (independently) shake the bottle then stand it up to see which letters can be identified through the glitz. The job is to write the letter down with big felt pens on the newspaper – making the letters a couple of inches tall.
- Then their job is to circle all the same letters they can find in the newspaper text.
- Come back to check and listen as they name the letter and say its sound. Then it's time for their reward!

#### Variations

Provide them with another set of alphabet letters – magnetic, or on cards, or wooden (Scrabble tiles), or cutouts. On a separate table they match and line up all the letters they were able to identify in the glitz bottle. Once they have reviewed those with you, have them repeat the same exercise with the letters remaining on the table.



### **Monster Word Challenge**

### Purpose

To help children understand that there are intriguing words made up of interesting letters. To teach and practice how to match large numbers of letters. To teach them that they are capable of reading really BIG, exciting words.

### Resources Required

- Sets of letters with enough letters to spell big words
- A white board
- Pens and paper
- Sticky notes
- A book of amazing, wondrous words (find a dinosaur book or a book of fairy tales that has big words). Examples: tyrannosaurus or brontosaurus or unicorn or princess – or whatever captures their imaginations. Look for a personal and highly motivated connection to the word.

#### Instructions

- Read the book with great enthusiasm and interest. Use the sticky notes to mark words that your child is most excited about and finds most interesting. Remember you are looking for BIG words.
- Your next job is to print those words on newspaper spread out on the table. Your child's job is to match the beginning letters using the alphabet set, putting the match for each letter directly below each of the printed letters.
- When finished, they read all the words, practicing using the initial letters (t tyrannosaurus) to help them recognize the word.
- Return to the book to find the original word. Have them show other family members the big words they can now recognize.

### Variations

If your child enjoys the activity, help them make a fold-over book where they print the words on each page accompanied by a drawing of the word's image. Now they are constructing a book of favourite words they can read over and over.





### **Literacy Blast**

### Purpose

To practice letter knowledge and letter sounds with two or three friends or family members.

### Resources Required

- Beanbags or small lightweight ballpit balls,
- Styrofoam balls, or even crumpled paper balls,
- Felt pens,
- A bucket or large container,
- Some things to use as barriers (tables, chairs, boxes).



- Choose some throwing objects (beanbags, plastic balls, paper).
- Print letters on those objects (based on the targeted skill). If you do not want it to be permanent, use masking tape on the object and print the letter on the tape.
- Players collect their projectiles and set up a barrier that they hide behind. Between all the barriers is a bucket or large container with one person chosen to sit in the middle of the barriers.
- When the signal is given, players poke their heads up and attempt to throw their projectiles into the bucket. As they throw, they must yell out

the letter. They must avoid being seen by the person in the middle - by ducking their heads behind the barrier after throwing.

• If they get caught, you could have them sit out for 10 seconds, or quickly read off a list of letters they have at their barrier before returning to throwing.

#### Variations

For added fun, wear ice-cream buckets on your heads as helmets.

## Tower Tumble

### Purpose

To experience an energetic alphabetic practice session

### Resources Required

- Felt pens,
- Masking tape or painters tape,
- Blocks.

#### Instructions

• Each player stands behind a table, desk, or similar flat service. Space out players as needed.



- Each player is equipped with one throwing ball, a die, and a handful of building blocks. Print letters on masking tape or directly on the blocks. The blocks can be differentiated (one student might have one set of basic letters on their blocks while another player might be working on more complex letters).
- A signal, players begin rolling their dice. If they roll a one, two, or three, they stack the corresponding number of blocks into a tower, reading each letter as they build their tower. If another one, two, or three is rolled, they continue to build on the existing tower. If they roll a 4, 5, or 6, they can start a new tower. If any tower falls over, the child who owns the tower (or the family member) has to name all the opponent's letters.
- The game is played for as long as you like. Change the rules with mutual agreement.

#### Variations

This game could be played with partners in teams of two. A small reward for the highest tower.





### The Bag with the Spy Hole

### Purpose

To encourage children to experiment orally with sound and letters using objects

### Resources Required

- A brown paper bag or envelope with a small spy eye-hole,
- Choice of two or three letters for practice represented by physical alphabet letters kept outside of the bag (magnetic or cutouts or Scrabble tiles),
- Two or three items that start with each letter (total about nine items in the bag).

- Present the bag to your child. Lay out the two or three letters that represent the items in the bag. Tell your child that there are surprise items in the bag that begin with these letters. Have them practice the different sounds the letters make. Also ask your child to generate words that start with that letter (after all they might be in the bag). Just for fun have them speculate whether the object might be in the bag (would the item be too big or too squishy etc.).
- After a few guesses they get to feel the bag and guess again.
- Then they get to look in the I Spy hole to get any hints. You can give them clues too. Eventually you want them to say the sound, name the letter and guess the object. Then they get to keep it! Some ideas for

contents of the bag: b for ball, box, banana, book; c for candy, car, can, cookie; s for spoon, soap, straw, stick.

#### Variations

The children themselves could look around the house for small appropriate items to put in the bag for the other players: for example, 'm' for a toy monkey, a spoon for 's', or 'p' for a pencil.





### **Golf Tees and Styrofoam**

### Purpose

To practice alphabet letter recognition playing SNAP using golf tees and Styrofoam

### Resources Required

- Random pieces of Styrofoam retrieved from packing boxes,
- Small, safe play hammer,
- Cards with letters of the alphabet on them or letters in a bag to be drawn out of the bag,
- Felt pens.

- On the sides of the Styrofoam, draw alphabet letters in a long straight row near the top – perhaps placing lower case on one side and upper case on the other side.
- Place the letter cards face down. Person One flips the cards one by one. Person Two calls out the name of the letter, the sound it makes and a few words that start with the sound.
- Once Person Two has succeeded (offering help is a good idea) she gets to pound a tee into the Styrofoam above the letter.
- Have lots of fun!

#### Variations

An old Cribbage board with coloured pegs could be used to keep score rather than the Styrofoam.



### **Kitchen Cupboard Sorting Trays**

### Purpose

To encourage children to first identify an object, secondly the beginning sound of its name, then match all three together by categorizing them in the same container. This activity is asking children to engage in reverse thinking so it will be a bit more difficult but important.

### Resources Required

- Collection of containers from the kitchen cupboard,
- Box of random objects collected from junk drawers or old jewellry boxes or toy or sewing boxes,
- Pictures from old magazines,
- Set of letters.

- Give your child empty trays that are not labelled.
- Bring out a big box of random items. Go through many of the items naming the objects together. (Note: Some items may be called different things. A ball of wool could be called a ball or wool or yarn.

This is okay and to be encouraged, especially if they have learned most of the alphabet already.)

- Have your child work independently to begin sorting the different objects into different trays according to beginning sounds and letters.
- Ask him to place a letter in front of each tray so he stays on track and remembers the reason for the sort.
- If your child struggles, work with him to problem solve or trouble shoot. It is not the final result that matters: it's generating the name and sound internally, hearing it internally, making the sound verbally and putting it into action through the sort.

### Variations

Move it outdoors! Put the trays on the front steps in a row. Together, take a basket into the yard or on a neighbourhood walk. Collect things you find along the way - stick, rock, grass, feather, snail, flower, leaf, cone, bug. Once you have a good collection return to the trays and prompt your child to sort the object as described above. Have them say it aloud and then make their matching and sorting choices.





#### Resources Required

- Paper,
- Play Doh or plasticine, or any gooey home-made stuff.

#### Instructions

- Print the letters of the week on pieces of paper.
- Give the children the Play Doh or other gooey stuff that they can manipulate.
- Have them make the shape of the letter with the goop right on top of the pattern you have made.
- Once finished, have them trace the letter shapes, say the name of the letter, and make the sound of the letter.
- Then practice thinking up words that start with the letter sound.

#### Variations

Children can use your patterns to do other activities: finger paint on top of the pattern; put glue on the patterns and add glitz or sprinkles; lay buttons or other small objects onto the letter patterns; ask them for ideas!



#### Parent's Upper-Case Alphabet Assessment At-Home Alphabet Success

When you keep track of your child's knowledge of each letter, you'll know which ones to target tomorrow and which ones to celebrate today.

My name is and I know my upper-case alphabet letters! Put a check mark in the box of the things I can do. Please make a copy for my teacher.						
Upper-case Alphabet Letters	l can say the name of the letter.	I know the sound of the letter.	I can find the letter in many words and places.	l can make or draw the letter.		
Α						
В						
С						
D						
E						
F						
G						
Н						
I						
J						
К						
L						
м						
Ν						
0						
Р						
Q						
R						
S						
т						
U						
V						
W						
Х						
Y						
Z						

#### Parent's Lower-Case Alphabet Assessment At-Home Alphabet Success

When you keep track of your child's knowledge of each letter, you'll know which ones to target tomorrow and which ones to celebrate today.

Lower-case Alphabet Letters	l can say the name of the letter.	l know the sound of the letter.	I can find the letter in many words and places.	I can make or draw the letter.
a				
b				
с				
d				
е				
f				
g				
h				
i				
i				
k				
I				
m				
n				
ο				
р				
q				
r				
S				
t				
U				
v				
w				
x				
у				