

Alphabet Knowledge Activities



Knowledge of letter names and the ability to name and write the 26 alphabet letters.

*Ways to teach **alphabet knowledge**:*

- Acknowledge the letters in a child's name by naming these letters as you write them.
- Play games with children's names.
- Post children's names in a variety of meaningful places in the classrooms such as cubbies.
- Develop visual memory and visual discrimination by playing games such as, "I Spy," "Concentration," and matching games.
- Model reading and writing behavior as a way to promote children's interest in and enjoyment of reading and writing.
- Describe actions as letters are written, say names of letters, and talk about specific letter-sound associations during shared reading and writing.
- Familiarize children with the alphabet by teaching them alphabet songs, reading alphabet books, and playing alphabet matching games.
- Provide tactile/kinesthetic manipulatives such as magnetic letters, sandpaper letters, alphabet puzzles, and alphabet stamps.
- Assist children in learning about the differences in the shapes of letters through activities such as playing alphabet matching games, sorting letters with curved lines from letters with only straight lines, and forming letters with play dough.
- Write letters of the alphabet with children in sand, rice, and with sidewalk chalk or with finger paint.
- Provide meaningful experiences for children to print their names by using a daily sign-in or an "**I am Here**" chart, labeling work, and using a **Turn Taking List**.
- Include floating letters at the water table and dig for letters in the sand table.

Remember to scaffold these letter-learning activities with your children.

Considerations for children with special needs:

- Provide alternative methods for children to explore and use alphabet letters such as eye gaze charts, flip charts and sandpaper letters.
- Encourage children to explore alphabet letters on a computer keyboard, braille, and label maker.
- Let children play games with letters on an All-Turn-It–Spinner and other assistive technology. Print out the letters a child “types” on a computer keyboard and give it to parents to put up on the refrigerator at home.

USING NAMES TO TEACH ALPHABET LETTERS

ALPHABET KNOWLEDGE RESOURCES