

Letter Bag



Suggested Group Size

Whole Group (Letter Name/Letter Sound); Small Group (Sorting Game)

Objective(s)

The children will match initial phonemes (sounds) to graphemes (written letters).

Activity

Children identify and match written target letters and their sounds.

Targeted VPK Education Standard(s)

- **IV. Emergent Literacy**

- **A.3.** Shows alphabetic knowledge

- **A.3.(a).** Child recognizes almost all letters by name (e.g., when shown a group of letters, can accurately identify the letter that is named).

- **A.3.(b).** Child names most letters (e.g., when shown a letter, can accurately say its name).

- **A.3.(c).** Child names some letter sounds (e.g., when shown a letter, can accurately say the sound the letter makes).

- **A.3.(d).** Child recognizes some letter sounds (e.g., when shown a group of letters, can accurately identify the letter of the sound given).

Related VPK Education Standards

- **III. Social and Emotional Development**

- **D.3.** Participates in the group life of the class

Materials

- Variety of objects that represent the targeted initial sounds
- Several objects that do not represent the targeted initial sounds
- Bag to hold the objects
- Record sheet with the target sound letter in the upper left column and the “No” sign, or an X in the upper right column
- Pencil or marker

Procedures

Letter Name/Letter Sound (Whole Group)

1. Choose one letter and letter sound to focus on for your lesson. Post it in the room where children can easily see it.
2. Introduce the letter sound for the target letter.
3. Discuss words that start with the target letter sound. Share objects that begin with the target letter sound.
4. Place the objects in the bag that begin with the target letter sound and several objects that do not represent the targeted initial sounds.
5. Choose one object from the bag.
6. Ask the children to name the object.
7. Ask the children what letter that object's name begins with and if that is the target letter and sound.

Sorting Game (Small Group)

Note: The small group activity should not be done until after the whole group is conducted.

1. Have children take turns drawing an object from the bag.
2. Allow all children in small group to see object and prompt child to name the object.
3. Prompt child to tell the initial letter sound and letter.
4. If the object's initial sound and target letter match, child (or teacher) draws object in target letter column on record sheet.
5. If the object's initial sound and target letter do not match, child (or teacher) draws object in left column on record sheet.
6. All children repeat initial letter sound and say letter name.

Adaptations

- Name all the objects together in whole group before conducting the sorting game.

Extensions

- Children can practice making the letter with play dough or drawing the letter in shaving cream.

Checking for Understanding

Children will demonstrate their understanding of the lesson by:

- identifying and naming the object and drawing the object in the correct column.

Submitted by

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This document was developed under the auspices of the Florida Department of Education, Office of Early Learning, to disseminate the Florida Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Standards, adopted by the Florida State Board of Education on August 19, 2008, consistent with the requirements of Section 1002.67, Florida Statutes.

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