

Brown Bag It



Suggested Group Size

Whole Group (Letter Name / Letter Sound); Small Group (Art Activity)

Objective(s)

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

Activity

Children sort pictures by initial sounds into bags labeled with different letters of the alphabet.

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**
 - **A.1.** Demonstrates self-concept
 - **D.3.** Participates in the group life of the class

Materials

- Small brown paper bags
- Pictures of various objects that are appropriate for young children
- Scissors

Procedures

Letter Name/Letter Sound (Whole Group)

1. Choose one letter 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 pictures or objects that begin with the letter sound.

Art Activity (Small Group)

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

1. Have pictures available for the children to look through that clearly show a variety of different objects beginning with the target letter sound.
2. Allow the children to cut out pictures of their choice that begin with the target letter sound.
3. When the children are finished cutting out pictures, ask them to name the object in each picture and guide them in determining what letter has the beginning sound.
4. Allow children to place their pictures in the appropriate bag while saying aloud the name of their object.

Adaptations

- Assist children who experience difficulty cutting, as needed during the activity.
- Use verbal, visual, and physical cues to help children know what to do.
- Provide precut pictures.

Extensions

- Have children look for pictures that correspond to 2-3 letters at a time and sort them into the matching bag.
- Children can use their pictures to make a class alphabet book.
- Add related materials to classroom centers:
 - **Art:** Allow children to create collages using pictures that start with a target letter of your choice. Provide magazines or pictures that are appropriate for young children.
 - **Literacy:** Ask children to bring on objects that begin with specific target letters and display them in the center. Allow the children to look at the objects and say which letter sound each object begins with.

Checking for Understanding

Children will demonstrate their understanding of the lesson by:

- identifying and naming the object pictured and placing the picture in the appropriate bag.

Submitted by

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