At-Home Phonics Activities

For Foundational Phonics Skills



At-Home Phonics Activities

Some of the most important literacy learning happens at home. You may not even realize you're improving literacy skills when you're talking to your children about their day, singing songs, playing pretend, and reading out loud. You and your family are already working to build your child's literacy skills in many ways.

These activities can be added to how you're already building literacy skills at home. The steps below do not have to be done all at once, and can be spread out and repeated throughout the year (and beyond).

PLAYING WITH LETTERS AND SOUNDS

Using your child's Achieve Now Progress Report, look at the letters from the Still Working On column. Use the letters your child is working on for the following activities:

- Choose one letter your child needs to work on. Write the letter (capital and lowercase) on the back of its flashcard, if you've printed the **Alphabet Flash Cards** in this packet (pages 4-10). If you're making your own, you'll also want to write the letter, draw a picture, and write the keyword on the other side. Your flashcards should look like the pictures to the right.
- Front of card

Back of card





2 Introduce the letter by showing the front of the flashcard (with picture): "This is the letter J. J says the sound /j/ like in the beginning of Juice. Repeat after me: J, /j/, Juice." Wait for your child to repeat.

/j/ means the sound of J. If you're unsure of the sounds, <u>click here</u> for a video of all the letter sounds.

- 3 Next, quiz your child. Show them the back of the card (just the letter, no picture). Have them say the sound.
- Create or add a new card when your child is able to say the name of the letter and the sound it makes on their own.
- 5 After learning at least 3 of the letter sounds, spread the flashcards out in rows or take out the **Alphabet Linking Chart** included in this packet (page 3). Say a **letter sound** and have your child point to the letter and say its name. Challenge your child to find the letters faster with each round.

Tip: Your child can also quiz themselves, or practice with a sibling! Feel free to add more cards to the pile as your child masters each set. You can also get creative and play games like "Go Fish" with the cards or come up with your own games.



OTHER ACTIVITIES TO PRACTICE PLAYING WITH WORDS, LETTERS, AND SOUNDS:

- Play a game of "I Spy" at home or in your neighborhood using letters and sounds. Look for letters on signs and storefronts, in books, magazines, labels, or the TV.
- 2 Talk about words, letters and sounds when reading with your child. For example, ask your child, "What words do you see on this page that start with the same letter as your name?" Or ask, "What is the beginning sound in the word 'house?" You can go on a hunt for specific letters in the book.



"I spy the letter X. Do you see it? What sound does X make?"

"I'm thinking of a word that starts with the sound /f/. Can you guess it?" (Flower)



3 Help your child keep track of all of the letter sounds in an "Alphabet Journal." When your child finds a letter in a book or in a game of I Spy, have them write the letter and draw a picture of the word. They can also try to spell the word using the letters they know.

Visit our <u>YouTube</u> <u>channel</u> to learn or review strategies for reading or spelling words.

Resources on the next pages

The Alphabet















