

Sandpaper Letters

Purposes: To give the child the symbols for the phonemes of his own language by means of three senses (tactile, visual, and auditory)
Direct preparation for writing and reading
To stimulate further exploration of the child's own language

Steps:

1. **Sensitize fingers** (See document with steps).
2. Lay the letters facing down on the upper-right side of the table.
3. Tell your child that you are going to show him the sounds of the letters.
4. Turn over a letter tell the child: "This letter makes the sound _____. I am going to think of words that begin with this sound." (Mention 3-4 words).
5. Show how to trace the letter, hold it with subdominant hand on the left-bottom edge of the letter; trace it several times starting on the bottom-left, with index and middle fingers of dominant hand trace it; and each time say the sound after tracing it.
6. Invite the child to trace the sandpaper letter several times and make the sound.
7. Place the sandpaper letter facing down on the left side of the table.
8. Repeat with the other two sandpaper letters.
9. When done with all, turn them over and line them horizontally.
10. Realize the Three Period Lesson:
 - a. First period: Point to each letter from left to right and tell him each of the sounds.
 - b. Second period: Commands, for example: "Show me the letter that sounds _____, hand me, put on my hand, etc. Trace it."
 - c. Third period: "What is the sound of this letter?" Have him trace the sandpaper letter each time.

Notes:

- Print the Document How to Trace Lowercase Letters and have it visible for you and your child.
- Show him where to start. Always start on the bottom-left.
- Do three at a time, and if the child is interested do three more.
- Do letters everyday (maximum of six).
- They are not presented in alphabetical order.
- Keep a record of the letters your child has done and circle those that he knows.
- You could have the child write the letter in a tray, box or container filled with sand, salt, sugar, or cornmeal.
- You can make letters at home.
 - Print in large size, cut and glue them on cardstock or construction paper.
 - Put glue on the letters.
 - Pour sand, salt, sugar, or cornmeal.
 - Or use grit sandpaper.
- Read document Why Cursive.

“Bring me Game”

Bring all the letters that the child knows and play the game.

Links

- <https://www.starfall.com/h/abcs/>
Every day do the same three or six he did for tracing.
Show the child the corresponding cursive letter.
The first time do a, m, e, r, i, c.
- <https://www.maitrilearning.com/blogs/montessori-pedagogy/language-activities-for-the-unexpected-homeschooler>
- https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=language-playing-i-spy

Examples of words

s (sensitize, sand, sit)

e (elephant, envelope, egg)

n (nanny, neck, nice)

a (apple, ant, animal)

u (umbrella, under, uncle)

i (iguana, igloo, incredible, intelligent)

o (oval, octopus, October, on, off)

c (cat, camera, car)

m (mom, mind, mystery)

r (rabbit, rainbow, red, rectangle)

d (dog, dad, donkey)

f (farm, fish, fantastic)

t (table, top, triangle)

p (pet, pencil, puppy)

l (language, lips, lizard)

h (horse, henry, happy)

g (girl, gorilla, gum)

z (zebra, zip, zipper)

q (quatrefoil, queen, quiet)

y (yes , yellow, yawn)