

Parents Instructions-Sandpaper Numerals

Materials: A set of figures, 0-9, each cut out of sandpaper and mounted on a separate card
A box
Sensitizing fingertips exercise

Purposes: To introduce the child to the symbols for the numbers already known
Preparation for writing

Steps:

1. Invite the child for the presentation. Show him the Sandpaper Numerals and ask him to bring the box to the table.
2. Sensitize fingers, both you and him.
3. Place the box on the right side of the table, take out three sandpaper numerals, and stack them upside-down in the lower-right corner of the table.
4. Turn the box and move it to the top-right side of the table.
5. Take a sandpaper numeral, place it in front of the child, tell him: "This is _____ (name it), and trace it three or four times, repeat the name each time after tracing it.
6. Invite the child to trace the sandpaper numeral.
7. Place it upside down on the left-side of the table. Continue in the same manner with the other two, and place them horizontally.
8. Do a Three Period Lesson in the same manner as with the Sandpaper Letters. Include tracing them in all the periods. You may repeat with three more sandpaper numerals if the child is ready. (Six is the maximum recommended for one day.)

Other Exercises:

1. **"Bring Me" Distance Game:** Lay the numerals randomly on a table and move across the house. Ask the child to bring you a specific number. When he brings it to you, ask him: "What did you bring me?" Do not praise or correct, just say the correct name and ask him to trace it. Continue in the same manner asking for other numerals.
2. **The Sand Tray:** He may find it helpful to trace the numbers into the sand tray (or you can make it with cornmeal, salt or sugar).

Notes:

- Begin with any number except for zero. Include the child's age as a number.
- Do three at a time with the Three Period Lesson. Do three more if the child is ready for it. (Maximum of 6 in one day.)
- Keep track on the numerals you have presented, and circle those that he masters.
- Make your own 'sandpaper' numerals similar to letters.