ABC Order

Cookie Sheet Activity with Plastic Letters

Objective

Children will use the alphabet song and ABC order to fill in the missing letter in the alphabet sequence. They may also identify the missing letter using the beginning sounds and their associated letters for the given pictures that are in the place of the missing letters.

Contents:

-20 different full color ABC order Cookie Sheet Activity Task Cards.

-20 different ink saving black and white ABC order Cookie Sheet Activity Task Cards.

-A printable alphabet to be cut apart, just in case you do not have plastic letters.

-A printable alphabet sheet to help keep letters organized.

Not provided: Magnetic plastic letters, cookie sheets.

Description

This ABC Order Cookie Sheet Activity is a fun and easy way for young children in Pre-K, Kindergarten, or first grade to practice alphabetical order by saying or singing the alphabet song to themselves while touching (tracking) each letter accurately. It also prompts them to use their phonics skills as well, since each missing letter has a beginning sound picture in its place! Kids love using plastic letters, especially when they are magnetic! So the activity is even more engaging by providing a cookie sheet that attracts the magnetic letters!

Preparation

STOP! Don't print the whole thing! First, decide if you would like to print in full color or use the black and white, ink saving option.

ALSO: Check to see if your magnetic letters will stick through your lamination onto your cookie sheets before you laminate the whole thing! For me, it worked well to put the papers into sheet protectors instead of laminat-

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ing. Another alternative that I came up with was to print onto plain copy paper, rather than index paper (cardstock) and laminate that. The magnetic letters stuck quite well this way, because the paper was thinner!

If you do not have any plastic letters, there are some alphabet flash cards provided to be printed and laminated. If you use cookie sheets, you may wish to attach magnets to the back of the letters. (The easiest way is to use self-adhesive magnets, I think! They stick better to laminated paper than hot glue.)

To Use

Naturally, children will have more success with this activity if you have introduced the concept of ABC order and beginning sounds. They will also need to know the letters of the alphabet, of course. Once children understand that they are to find the letter associated with the beginning sound of the picture on the card, then all you need to do is make sure that they can identify each picture. English language learners may need extra practice with this step, but if necessary, give them an English speaking partner that can help. These task cards may be used independently, but the key is to practice using them first in small groups so you can monitor how they are being used. In my class, I show the whole class first how to use a center manipulative. Then, when we break into small groups, we do guided practice together using the manipulative at my table. I watch to see how they are doing, and to see what they may have misunderstood. You may find that the younger the child, the more guided practice in small groups is needed.

Keeping Letters Organized

If you provide a system of organizing the plastic letters, it should be easier for the children to find each letter that they need. With this, children should spend far less time *searching* for a letter, and *more time on the given skill*, which is in this case alphabetical order and beginning sounds. For example, place the letters in a plastic box with a separate labeled compartment for each letter. Or, provide an additional cookie sheet with the letters in order, placed on top of a printed alphabet sheet (provided). When children use plastic letters independently, I check to make sure they have reorganized the used letters after each rotation to hold them accountable! This helps a great

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deal, and prevents me from having to sort out a giant mess of plastic letters at the end of the day.

Teaching Tip

Do not assume that your students understand that you have placed the letters in alphabetical order to make them easier to find! Often, children do not realize this, and will not notice until you point it out! Young children may need practice singing the alphabet song, touching each letter as they go, and finding a given letter. I find that this is also true of our Word Wall; unless I teach them how to find a word they need to copy, only my fastest learners instinctively know or remember where those words are on the wall!

Have fun! Questions? Suggestions? Let us know! Just email us at info@heidisongs.com.

> Thanks! Heidi Butkus



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Version 2



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Version 1



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