

Learning on the Go: Literacy Tips for Young Children

Letter of the Week

There are six pre-reading skills that young children need to learn in order to be ready to read. The following activity teaches one of these skills, **letter knowledge**:

“Letter of the week” is a fun activity that can be squeezed into busy lives at home or on the go. To start, use the first letter in your child’s name. If you have magnetic letters, put your selected letter on the refrigerator. Talk about its shape and emphasize the sound of the letter. Then find words beginning with that letter throughout the week. At home, look for your letter on familiar household and food items. While driving, look at billboards, store signs and license plates. Grocery stores offer unlimited opportunities for finding letters while keeping your child occupied. Sing the alphabet song and shout out your letter when you come to it. The next week, start the fun all over again by using the second letter of your child’s name, and so on, until all the letters have had their week.