Letters & Phonics Curriculum
Lesson Plans & Hands-on Activities

www.FunEarlyLearning.com
About:
Thank you so much for purchasing our Letters & Phonics Literacy Curriculum! We hope it will be a great resource for you and that you will love it as much as we do! Please don’t hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. We’re here to help in any way we can. We also appreciate and value your feedback, so if you love our products head on over to our website or TPT store and let us know by leaving us some feedback!


Additional Materials Needed
- color printer and paper (24 lb. paper works well for single-sided and 32 lb. paper for double sided)
- card stock is optional and is used if you choose not to laminate. Laminator, laminating pouches, page protectors and a paper trimmer.
- 1 1.5” binder and page protectors for the Learning Letters Hands-on Activities Binder
- 1 1.5”binder for the Literacy Program calendar and other documents is optional
- whiteboard markers, whiteboard erasers, flat glass jewels, pom poms, play dough, clothespins, bingo chips, pocket chart, uppercase alphabet stamps, lowercase alphabet stamps, snap cubes
- pencils, erasers, scissors, glue, stapler, colored construction paper, bingo daubers
- Optional items for worksheets: markers, crayons, colored pencils and stickers

How our Literacy Curriculum is Structured
Understanding letter-sound correspondence is the key to reading and writing. In order to read a word, children must first recognize letters in the word and be able to associate each word with its sound. In order to write the word, children must be able to break the word apart into sounds and write the letters that correspond to those sounds.

We teach letters and letter-sound correspondence simultaneously to help children start reading as soon as possible. We start by teaching letters that occur most frequently in simple words, such as a, t, m, s. We also separate letters that look alike and have similar sounds to avoid confusion.
How we teach

Our Literacy Program is taught by modeling, guided practice, and independent practice.

- Modeling: The teacher will start by introducing the letter. They will teach the letter name, letter sound, and how to write the letter.

- Guided Practice: Through a series of instructional materials, the teacher provides support to help the children understand and remember letter names and sounds.

- Independent Practice: We use a series of hands-on activities to help children apply the letter recognition and identification, letter-sound knowledge, and writing skills with little to no help from the teacher. This ensures that they have truly mastered the skill and concept and are ready to move on to the next letter.

- Applied Practice: Children will use their knowledge in large group activities, games, art projects, sensory activities and science experiments.

Here is a Peek at our Letters & Phonics Literacy Curriculum

Text Only Calendar that is Editable
Circle Time / Warm Up

Letter A Book – Allie the Amazing Ant

Letter A Song

Table Time / Small Group Lesson

Teaching Letters Instruction Packet:
Lessons 1.1 – 1.4 & Worksheets

Learning Letters Binder - Aa

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Week 1 – Letter A – INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

**Letter Identification Center 1**

- **Clip & Flip Letters - A**
  - A, B, a, K, a, A, A
- **Superhero Letter Match - A**
  - A, a, B, a, C, A, a, e, a, A, a
- **Uppercase & Lowercase Letter Sorting - A**
  - A, a, A, A

**Letter Formation Center 2**

- **Snap Cube Letters - A**
  - A, a
- **Play Dough Letter Mats - A**
  - A, a, A, A, A

**Letter Writing Center 3**

- **Superhero Sensory Tray Writing - A**
  - A, a
- **Write & Wipe Letters - A**
  - A, A, A, a, a, a
# Week 1 – Letter A – INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

## Letters Sounds / Phonics Center 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clip and Flip Beginning Sounds - A</th>
<th>Initial Sound Picture Sort - A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Apple, Airplane, Apple, Ant" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Initial Sound Picture Sort Words that Start with Aa" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Early Finishers / Extra Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Write the Room - A</th>
<th>Letter Sound Find and Match - A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Anchor, Apple, A" /></td>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Letter Sound Find and Match" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Early Finishers / Extra No Prep Worksheets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dab-a-Dot Letter Q-Tip Painting - A</th>
<th>Mystery Letter Pictures - A</th>
<th>Alphabet Flip Books - A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image5.png" alt="Dab-a-Dot Letter Q-Tip Painting - A" /></td>
<td><img src="image6.png" alt="Mystery Letter Pictures - A" /></td>
<td><img src="image7.png" alt="Alphabet Flip Books - A" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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# Week 1 – Letter A – APPLIED PRACTICE

## Large Group / Games

### Alphabet Bingo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aa</th>
<th>Gg</th>
<th>Oo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apple</td>
<td>Grapes</td>
<td>Owl</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Letter Detectives Pocket Chart Game

```
A B C D E
F G H I J
K L M N O
P Q R S T
U V W X Y Z
```

## Art Projects / Art Center

### Letter Art Book - A is for Ant

```
A A A A
a a a a
```

### Bubble Letter - A

```
Aa
```

### Letter Wands - A

![Letter Wands - A](image)

## Science / Sensory Projects

### Apple Scented Cloud Dough Sensory Bin

**Materials:**
- Plastic Storage Container (12 quarts or similar)
- 7 Cups of flour
- 1 Cup of Oil
- Apple Pie Spice
- Orange Essence (optional)
- Red Food Coloring (optional)
- Measuring cups, spoons, bowls, and other play toys

**Directions:**
1. Combine all ingredients in the plastic storage container. Add the apple pie spice and/or cinnamon until the scent is to your liking.
2. Add the play toys and you're done!

This sensory bin can get kind of messy. We recommend placing towels under it indoors or using it outside. Luckily, it vacuums up easily.
Letter A Song
Sung to the tune of If You’re Happy and You Know It (have an uppercase A and lowercase a visible – a poster or a memory card/flash card)

Oh I love uppercase A, uppercase A. (clap, clap)
Oh I love uppercase A, uppercase A. (clap, clap)
It has a point up on the top, (put the tips of your fingers together above your head to make a point)
And a line across the middle. (draw a horizontal line with your finger)
Oh I love uppercase A, uppercase A. (clap, clap)

Oh I love lowercase a, lowercase a. (stomp, stomp)
Oh I love lowercase a, lowercase a. (stop, stomp)
It has a cute little belly, (draw the letter “c” with your finger to show the a’s “belly”)
And a line along the side. (draw a straight line down with your finger)
Oh I love lowercase a, lowercase a.

A makes 2 different sounds, /ɑː/ (pronounced “aah” like ant) and /ˈæ/ (“ay” – like the letter name). Hurrah
/ɑː/ /ˈæ/ /ˈæ/ /ɑː/, like ant and airplane. (you can show these pictures using our memory cards
/ɑː/ /ˈæ/ /ˈæ/ /ɑː/, like angel and anchor. (you can show these pictures using our memory cards
A makes 2 different sounds, /ɑː/ (“aah”) and /ˈæ/ (“ay”). Hurray!
Lesson 1: Teaching “Aa”

** Please note that we have removed some directions and activities from Lesson 1 in this preview to show a small example of the Instruction Packet.

Lesson 1.1: Recognizing A and its Sounds

1. Show the uppercase A word wall card
   • “This is the letter “A”. It is called capital “A” or uppercase “A”.”

2. Show the lowercase a word wall card
   • “This is also the letter “a”. It is called lowercase “a”. See how it is smaller than the uppercase “A”? All letters have an uppercase and a lowercase.”

3. Letter-Sound Correspondence using the letter A picture word wall cards
   • “The letter “A” is a vowel. It makes a long and short sound.
   • “A” makes the sound /ă/ (pronounced “aah”) like ant and airplane.” (show the pictures) “Say /ă/. Great! The sound /ă/ is the short vowel sound for “A”.”
   • “A” also makes the sound /ā/ (pronounced like the letter name) like angel and anchor.” (show the pictures) “Say /ā/. Great job! The sound /ā/ is the long vowel sound for “A”.”

Lesson 1.2: Making Connections with the Letter A

1. “We’ve already talked about 4 words that start with the letter “A”: ant, airplane, angel, and anchor. Can you think of any more words that start with “A”?” (apple, alligator, art, ate, ape)

2. “Does your name start with the letter “A”? Do you know anyone whose name starts with the letter “A”?” (Angie, Alex, Andrew, Amber)

3. “We’re going to play the I Spy Game with the letter “A”!

Lesson 1.3: Writing Uppercase A

1. Use the uppercase letter A word wall card

2. Use the whiteboard and whiteboard marker to demonstrate

3. “A is for Airplane” worksheet

Lesson 1.4: Writing Lowercase a

1. Use the lowercase letter a word wall card

2. Use the whiteboard and whiteboard marker to demonstrate

3. “a is for apple” worksheet
Worksheet Packet A-Z

Science and Sensory Projects

Apple Scented Cloud Dough Sensory Bin

Materials:
- Plastic Storage Container (32 quarts or smaller)
- 7 Cups of Flour
- 1 Cup of Oil
- Apple Count
- Red Food Coloring
- Measuring Cups
- "You Are My Apple"

Directions:
1. Combine ingredients in the container.
2. Add food coloring.

This sensor activity is sure to keep the kids engaged.

Blowing up Balloons Science Experiment

Materials:
- 2 12-ounce bottles of soda (or more depending on how many times you’d like to do it)
- Nerds
- Pop Rocks
- 2 Balloons
- Funnel

Directions:
1. Attach the part of the balloon you will use to blow it up to the funnel and pour in some nerds. The more you add, the more the balloon will expand.
2. Remove the balloon from the funnel and attach it to the soda bottle. Be careful not to let any of the nerds fall into the bottle while the balloon is being attached.
3. While keeping the balloon attached to the bottle, gently lift up the bottom portion of the balloon that has the nerds in it and let the balloon fall into the soda.
4. Let go of the balloon once it's empty and watch it expand!
5. Repeat steps 1-4 using Pop Rocks.

Vocabulary Terms:
- Expand (balloon blows up) and Contract (balloon shrinks down)
- Compare and Contrast

You can repeat this experiment adding different amounts of the nerds and pop rocks to the soda to compare how much the balloons blow up.
Bonus No Prep Worksheets!
A $25 Value!
Pictures of our Literacy Program in Action!