

NM Public School

Preschool Letter Instruction

Key Terms

- Letter-name and letter-sound connections- this cycle focuses on letters with the name-to-sound correspondence.
 - V (vowels) - A, E, I, O, U
 - CV (consonant vowel) - B, D, J, K, P, T, V, Z
 - VC (vowel consonant) - F, L, M, N, R, S
- Letter frequency- this cycle focuses on letters that are present in the environment
 - Letters in a child's name
 - Most Commonly Known Letters - B, X, O, A, S, K, D, C
 - Less Frequently Known Letters - M, J, T, Y, E, H, L, Z, P, R
 - Least Known Letters - I, Q, F, G, N, U, V
- Consonant acquisition order- this cycle focuses on letters that show earlier developing speech sounds.
 - 2-year-olds - /p/, /b/, /m/, /w/, /h/, /t/, /d/, /n/
 - 3-year-olds - /k/, /g/, /y/, /ng/, /f/, /s/, /z/
 - 4-year-olds - /sh/, /j/, /ch/, /l/
 - 5-year-olds - /r/, /th/, /v/
- Distinctive visual features- this cycle focuses on the visual features of letters.
 - Straight - i, l (lower case l)
 - Curved - C, c, J, j, O, o, S, s, U
 - Straight Intersections - E, F, H, I (uppercase I), L, T, t
 - Curved Intersections - a, B, b, D, d, e, f, G, g, h, m, n, P, p, Q, q, R, r, u
 - Diagonal Intersections - A, K, k, M, N, (R), V, v, W, w, X, x, Y, y, Z, z

References:







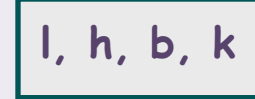
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Suggested Sequence

<p>Cycle 1: Own-Name Advantage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advantage - Begin with the initial letter in a child's name • This is highly motivating and developmentally helpful for children. <p>Mateo</p> <p>Sophia</p>	<p>Cycle 2: Alphabet Order</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advantage - Learning the alphabet sequence • This pattern should be familiar 	<p>Cycle 3: Letter-Name and Letter-Sound Connections (Acrophonic Principle)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advantage - Letters with sound connection and letters with a single sound • Letters with sound connection may require less time than more difficult letters.  
<p>Cycle 4: Letter Frequency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advantage - Environmental exposure • The focus will be on the letters in the text. 	<p>Cycle 5: Consonant Acquisition Order</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advantage - The development of the acquisition of speech sounds • Early developed sounds are taught first. 	<p>Cycle 6: Distinctive Written Visual Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advantage- Based on the shapes of the visual forms • Distinctive features of letters are compared.  
<p>Letter Instruction Components</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name • Shape (uppercase/lowercase) • Sound • Target word • Mouth shape • Writing it 	<p>Why We Don't Do Letter-of-the-Week</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would take 26 weeks to do the entire alphabet. • Not all letters take the same amount of instruction - some are easier, and some are more difficult. • Children come to school already knowing some letters. • Children benefit from repetition and practice to learn the letters. 	

References:

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