

Identifies beginning LETTER of a word simple word.

Strategy to teach skill: Focus first on letters studied: for example, consonants in name and then consonants in alphabetical order b, c, d, f, etc. **Have an alphabet in some form in front of your child to help prompt memory such as individual letter cards, alphabet magnets, or an alphabet puzzle.**

Clearly announce the beginning sound of a word to the point of bouncing the beginning sound of the word and ask your child to repeat the first sound that he or she hears when you say the word, and have the alphabet in front of your child to help prompt the child to properly identify the letter that makes the sound.

For example:

b b ball
c c cat
h h hog
f f frog
g g get
m m make
a a apple

Practice bouncing sounds with the Phonics Song:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=saF3-f0XWAY>

Once your child gets the hang of identifying the sound of word that has the beginning sound bounced, try just emphasizing the beginning sound of the word and seeing if you child can identify the beginning letter of the word. If your child is having problems, have your child name the sound then identify the letter.

For example:

Car
Kiss
Fish
Bop
Goose
Dinosaur
Pumpkin
Net

Practice with letters your child knows. Practice this skill 1 to 2 minutes per day until you child has mastered the skill. Mastery is demonstrated when the child repeatedly, over several days, makes no errors.