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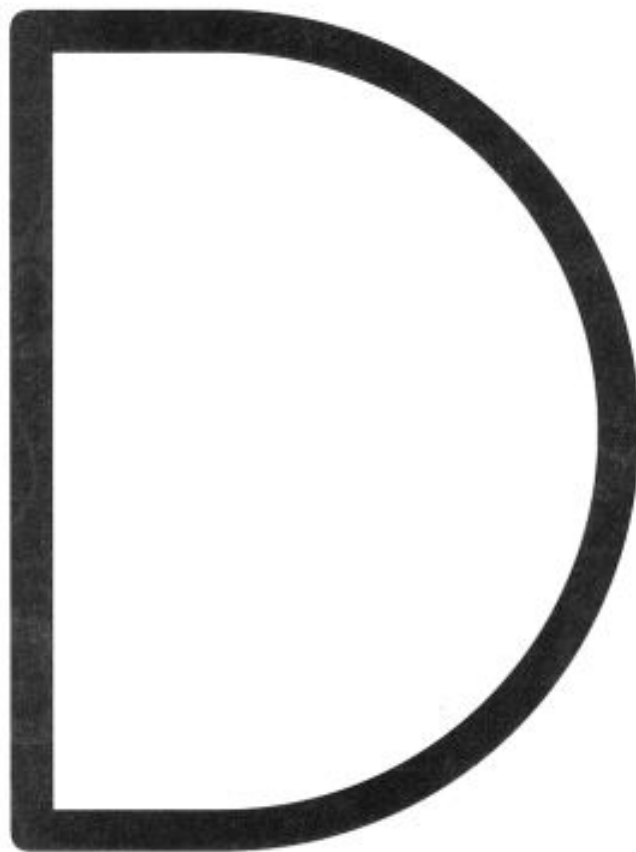
say the letter
name each time



★ See teacher dialogue

Dd

say the sound
each time



Dog

Dd

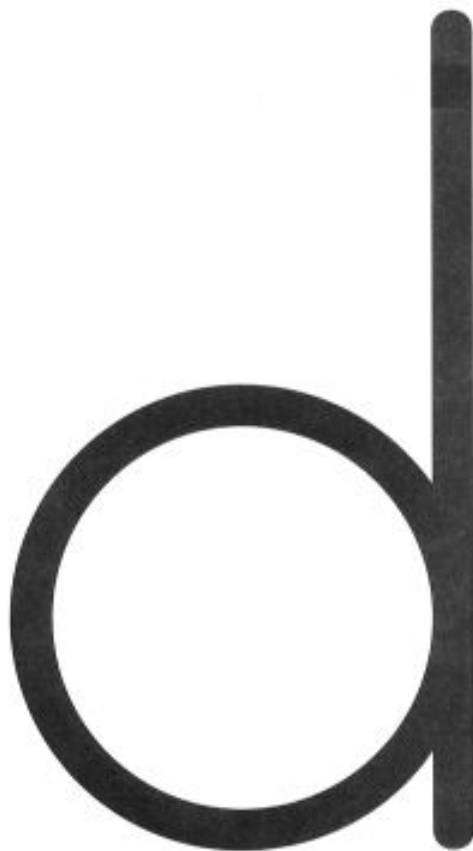
say the letter
name each time



★ See teacher dialogue

Dd

say the sound
each time



duck

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Cartoon Phonics - A Kinesthetic Approach

Cartoon Phonics is a multisensory (visual-auditory-kinesthetic), systematic approach for learning the alphabet letters and their associated sounds. Students see, name, trace and write the letters simultaneously. This will produce an automatic (VAK) response for letter/sound relationships. A sample teaching dialogue is provided below to make sure each step in the process is included.

Materials for each child:

1. reproduced copy of the letter to be used
2. reproduced copy of the cartoon for the letter to be used
3. three crayons, each a different color
4. a pencil

Teaching Dialogue

The letter **a** was chosen for the sample dialogue because it allows for some of the exceptions in the English language, such as a letter having two sounds. The dialogue is intended as a guide and the person teaching will need to substitute the correct letter name, sound, etc. for the particular letter being taught at the time.

*Letter recognition (visual)

Hold up a copy of the letter **a**.

"Today we are going to learn about the letter **a**;

a is the first letter of our alphabet; **a** is a vowel."



*Skywriting (visual - kinesthetic)

Demonstrate on the board:

"Watch me write the letter **a** on the board. Letter **a** starts like a circle, goes around to the left, and comes up to close the circle. Then I make a straight line down to finish. Look at the letter and say its name with me - **a**."

"Let's pretend to draw a letter **a** in the air. We will skywrite letter **a** in the air with our fingers, like an airplane skywrites letters in the air. Put two fingers together (like a Scout salute) and practice skywriting the letter **a** three times. Say the letter name as you skywrite the letter, **a-a-a**." Watch to make sure the circle shape is drawn to the left. If needed, stand behind a student take his hand, and guide it to form the letter correctly. *When you are demonstrating a capital letter be sure to use the designation 'capital letter'. (" Watch me write the **capital letter A**...)

*Tracing (visual - motor integration)

Distribute a copy of the letter to be traced to each child.

"Now we will use the same two fingers we used for skywriting to trace the letter **a** on our paper."

Demonstrate by holding the worksheet against the board and tracing the letter with two fingers.

"Let's all trace the letter with our fingers three times. Say the letter name each time, **a-a-a**."



***Rainbow trace (visual - motor - tactile - integration)**

Ask the children to take three crayons and a pencil out of their desks.
"Use one of your crayons to trace over the letter **a**. Say the name of the letter as you trace.
Use the other two crayons to trace over the letter **a**."
Watch the children tracing the letter, correcting form and directionality if needed.
"Now, use your fingers to trace over the rainbow letter **a**.
Feel the texture of the crayon.
Trace the rainbow letter **a** three times and say the name of the letter as you trace; **a-a-a**."



***Sound/symbol relationship (visual - auditory - kinesthetic / sight word vocabulary)**

A word that begins with the sound of the letter being taught has been designated for use in the multisensory presentation. The word appears at the bottom of the letter page and is the name of the object to be drawn as the cartoon.
"Letter **a** is a vowel and it may have more than one sound. It can say /ă/ as in astronaut. An astronaut is a man who flies in space. Let's say name of the letter, the sound and the word astronaut as we skywrite the letter **a** three times; **a- /ă/ - astronaut, a- /ă/ - astronaut, a- /ă/ - astronaut.**"
(Astronaut may be used as an auditory prompt to reinforce the phonetic sound. "What says /ă/ as in astronaut?")
"Now, with your pencil, trace over the letters that make the word **astronaut** at the bottom of your paper. Use your best handwriting to write the word **astronaut** again next to the traced word."

***Cartoon art (visual - motor - memory integration)**

"Now let's make an **astronaut** out of our rainbow **a** that says /ă/."
The teacher may use the example to draw the cartoon step by step on the board or may provide a copy of the sample to each child for independent work. Repeated inability to re-create most aspects of the cartoon should prompt further investigation into the visual motor development of the child.
If provided with more copies of the letter for tracing, the children may want to create their own cartoons of other objects that begin with the designated letter.



Other alphabet and phonics titles from Wendy's Bookworks:

- WBW 1902 Alphabet Art
- WBW 1912 Paper Plate Phonics 1 – Beginning Sounds
- WBW 1913 Paper Plate Phonics 2 – Word Families
- WBW 1914 Paper Plate Phonics 3 – Rhyming Stories
- WBW 1916 3-Star Phonics - A Kinesthetic Approach – Book 1, Vowels
- WBW 1917 3-Star Phonics - A Kinesthetic Approach – Book 2, Consonant Blends

Extended Activities

1. Children can practice the designated letter in a tactile way by:

writing the letter on the back of one another



writing the letter in a sand or salt tray



using beans, popcorn or cotton balls to make a "touchy-feely" letter



2. Brainstorm more words that begin with the same **sound** and write them on the paper with the cartoon.



3. Create a bulletin board using the cartoon page and pictures from magazines that begin with the same **sound**.



4. Use a hanging chart to make sentences from the words that have been collected on the bulletin board and from the brainstorming.



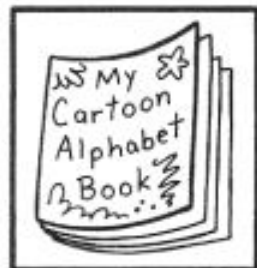
5. Create a letter/sound center where the children can experiment with various forms of the letter.

Include colored pencils, markers, crayons, clay, sponge letters, stencil letters, rubber stamps, scissors, paper and glue.



6. Let each child collect his cartoon pages and create a book.

Let the child create a cover and then staple the pages and cover together.



Alphabet Books to Read

Alphabet Soup, by Kate Banks, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1988.

Anamalia, by Graeme Base, Harry N. Abrams, New York, 1993.

From Acorn to Zoo, by Satoshi Kitamura, Anderson Press Ltd., Great Britain, 1992.

The Z Was Zapped, by Chris Van Allsburg, Houghton Mifflin, Boston, 1987.

