

My name is \_\_\_\_\_

I am learning to print  
my ABCs when  
someone says them.

**L S G R B O**

# Dear Family

Your child is learning to **print letters when someone says them**. You can help your child to print letters by practicing at home. Use the activities on pages 2–5 to help your child.

Here are some other daily activities to try:

☺ **Say a few letters and have your child print them.**

Give your child a sheet of paper and a pencil. Explain that you are going to say some letters. Then tell your child to listen carefully and to print each letter after you say it. Allow your child time to print each letter.

☺ **Read books with your child** about the alphabet. Here are some books that you might find at your local library:

*Flora McDonnell's ABC*, by Flora McDonnell.

*Martha Speaks*, by Susan Meddaugh.

*Dr. Seuss's ABC: An Amazing Alphabet Book*, by Dr. Seuss

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15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

# Helpful Hints

## **1. Use Letter Cards**

Use letter cards to help your child learn to write letters as you say them.

## **2. Practice Often**

Use the practice sheet on page 5. Have your child practice writing the letters without looking at the letters. Then, each day, spend a few minutes having your child print letters as you say them.

## **3. Have Fun!**

Let your child use crayons, pencils, or chalk to print letters as you say them. Let your child form the letters with clay, print letters in sand, and finger paint. Offer praise when your child is successful.

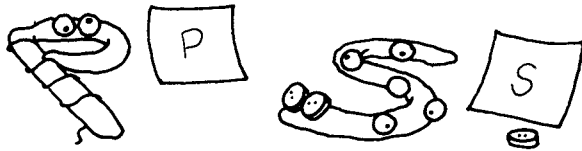
# Activities

## Activity 1 Dough-Letter Creatures

### WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Play dough
- Letter cards
- Beads, buttons, and string for decoration

Give your child a lump of play dough. Show your child how to roll the dough into “ropes.” Say one letter, and have your child form that letter with the dough. Show your child the matching letter card, if necessary. Then have your child decorate the letter, using beads, buttons, string, or more dough to make interesting creatures. Continue with the other letters.



## Activity 2 Letters in Sand

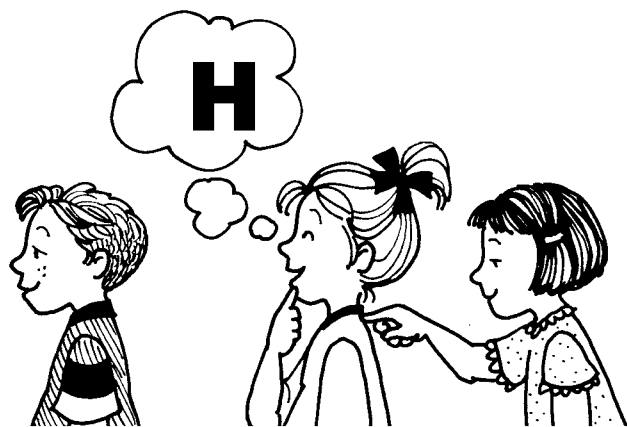
### WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- A shallow box (a shoebox top, a tray with sides)
- Sand

Fill the bottom of the box with sand. Give your child the box. Call out a letter, and have your child print the letter in the sand. Once your child has shown you the letter, erase the letter by gently shaking the box. Continue with the other letters.

### Activity 3 Family Letter Train

Have your family sit on the floor in a straight line, one behind the other, forming a train. Have your child think of a letter. Then, starting with the “caboose,” have her use her index finger to draw her letter on the back of the person in front of her. The person in front then guesses what letter was drawn. Continue up the line until the “engine” correctly guesses the letter drawn on her back. At that point, have everyone stand and turn to face in the opposite direction to turn “the train” around. Now the “caboose” becomes the “engine” and each person gets to write on a new person’s back!

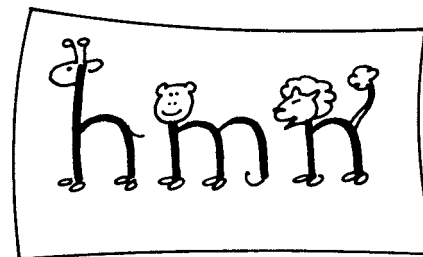


### Activity 4 Animal Letters

#### WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Paper
- Crayons

Choose a group of letters that are similar in appearance (h, m, n). Say one letter at a time, and have your child print each letter carefully. Then let your child use crayons to create animals from the letters.



## Activity 5 Listen and Print

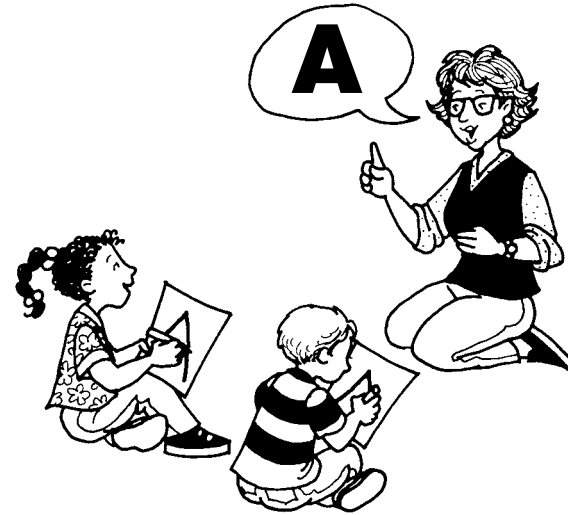
### WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- A recording device
- A pencil
- A piece of paper

Prepare a recording of the letters that you want your child to print. Say the letters in random order. Allow enough time between letters for your child to print a letter without hurrying.

Give your child a pencil and a piece of paper. Tell your child to print each letter as he hears it. Begin the recording.

When the recording has finished, sit with your child and play back the recording to check his work.



# My Practice Page

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line for letter height guidance. There are five sets of these lines on the page.



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**PRINTS LETTERS**  
**Use with**  
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**Section 19**

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