



Getting to Know the Alphabet

My First Letters!

Beginner: Point out the letters in your child's name whenever you see them around you.

[Tip]: Model how to trace the letters or build them with toys, play dough, or even cooked spaghetti noodles!

Intermediate: Point out uppercase (BIG) letters wherever you see them.

[Tip]: Model how to trace the uppercase letters or build them with toys, play dough, pieces of string, buttons, toothpicks, or even cooked spaghetti noodles!

Experienced: Show how uppercase (BIG) letters and lowercase (little) letters are different.

[Tip]: Model how to trace the ABCs in uppercase (ABCD...) and in lowercase (abcd...), or build them with toys, play dough, pieces of string, buttons, toothpicks, or by printing on a foggy window!

Why is this important? Printing and tracing letters correctly helps children learn to read and write.

References:

Olsen, J. Z. (2003). Handwriting Without Tears curriculum.

Campana, K. & Dresang, E. T. (2012). Bridging the early literacy gulf. Proceedings of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, 48(1), [10.1002/meet.2011.14504801134](https://doi.org/10.1002/meet.2011.14504801134)