Parent Strategies for Early Reading Success

LET'S READ

Great for helping parents learn how to teach their children Phonemic Awareness and Alphabet Recognition!

By Paula Hubert

Parent Strategies for Early Reading Success

The two best predictors of early reading success are alphabet recognition and phonemic awareness. Phonemic awareness is the ability to hear, identify, and manipulate individual sounds or phonemes in spoken words.

The following games will help your child develop phonemic awareness skills. These games are to be played orally and can be played anywhere – while you're making dinner, going for a walk, in the car or waiting in line at the store.

Play rhyming games: Ask your child, "Do you want some wilk and mookies?" and have your child figure out the real word. Find objects in the house that rhyme, rhyme things with your name, rhyme with food, etc.

Play "I Spy" Sounds and Letters

"I spy something that starts with the /s/ sound" or " I spy something that starts with the letter t."

Vse pictures in books and magazines to work on beginning sounds. For example, if you see a picture of a car, ask your child "What is the first sound you hear when I say the word car?"

Throughout your day, ask your child what sound do you hear at the beginning of words such as pig, skirt, nest, etc. This activity can be done with as many words as you can think of. Once you feel your child is doing well with that skill, begin to ask them the last sound of words.

Play games that focus on individual words. Think of a word and break it up into its individual sounds. For example: cap would be /c//a//p/. Say the sounds slowly and pause between each sound. Then have your child blend the word together.

Play the opposite way too. Say the word and have your child break it into its individual sounds.

Play Sound Boxes using the attached game board. Have your child listen to the individual sounds of the words using the provided word list and move a chip, penny or bean in the box where they hear the sound. Each box represents one phoneme or sound. For the 3 sound boxes use 3 chips and for the 4 sound boxes use 4 chips. The following games are to be played with the attached letter cards.

Play "Be the Teacher". Show the card to your child and say "name" and then say "sound." Then reverse the roles and have your child be the teacher.

Have your child stand across the room while you hold up the flashcards. Show him a flashcard; every time he says the sound or letter correctly, he gets to take one step or a hop toward you. Keep going until he is close enough to touch you.

While the child is out of the room, hide the flashcards in various locations. Have him come into the room and look for the cards. As he finds each one, he must tell you which letter/sound is on the card.

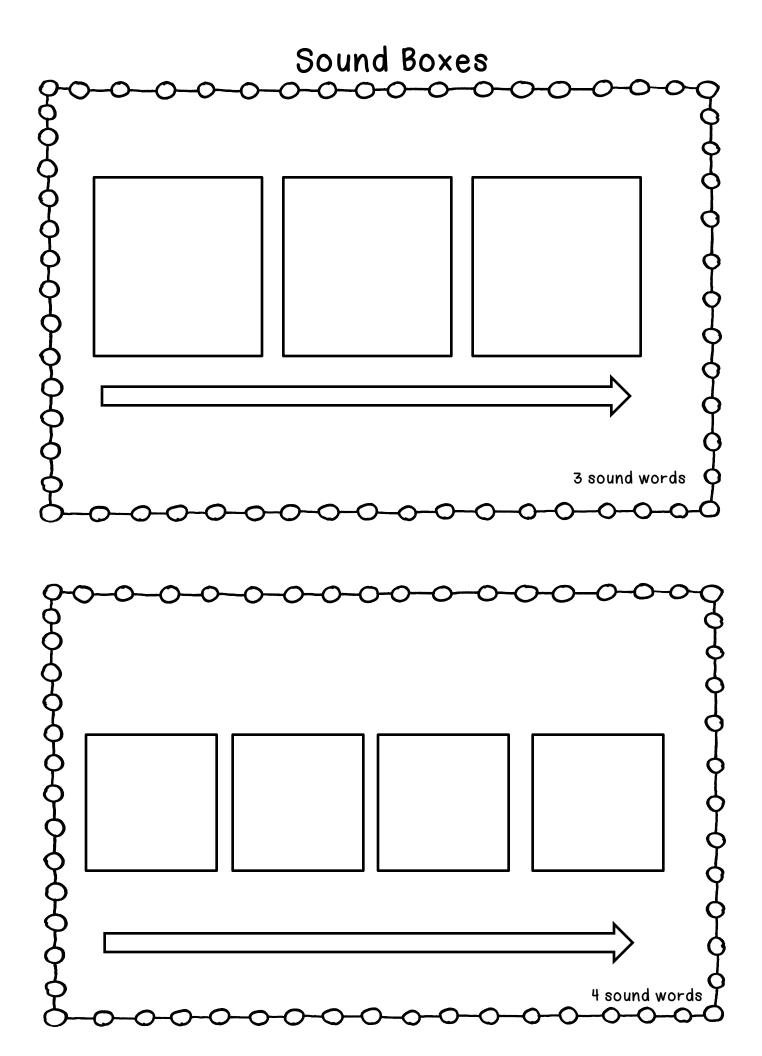
Place the flashcards face down on the floor. Have your child toss a beanbag onto a card. Have your child flip over whichever card the beanbag lands on and say the letter/sound that is on the card.

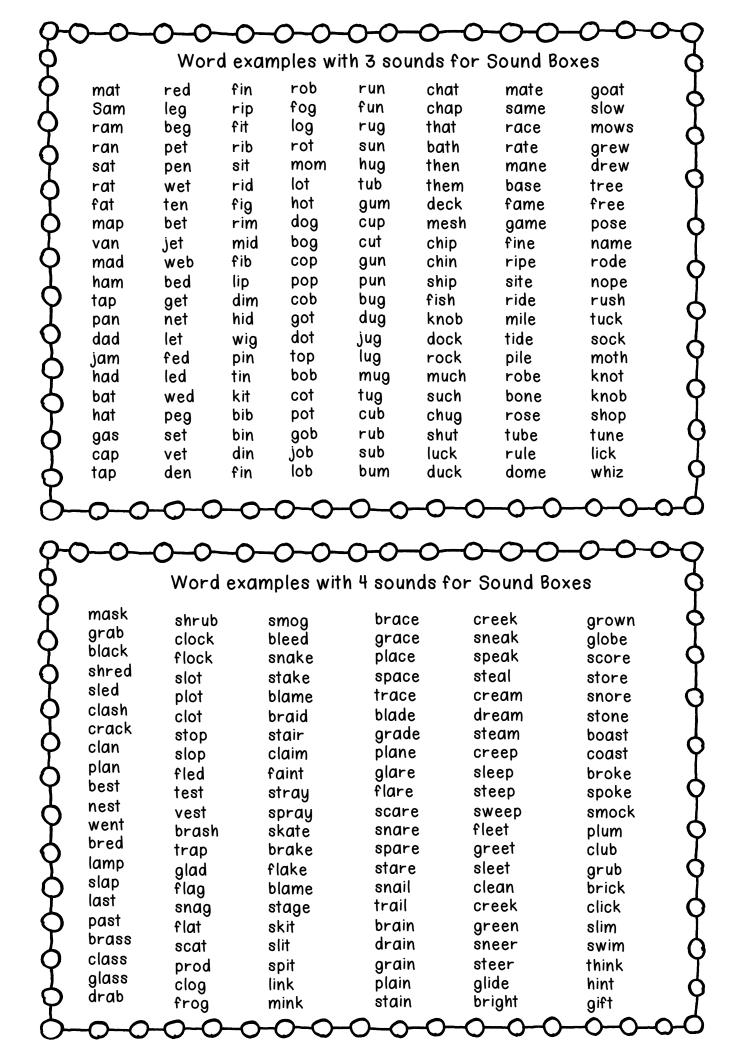
⁷ Spread all of the cards out on a table face up. You say one of the letters or sounds and see how quickly he can pick up that card.

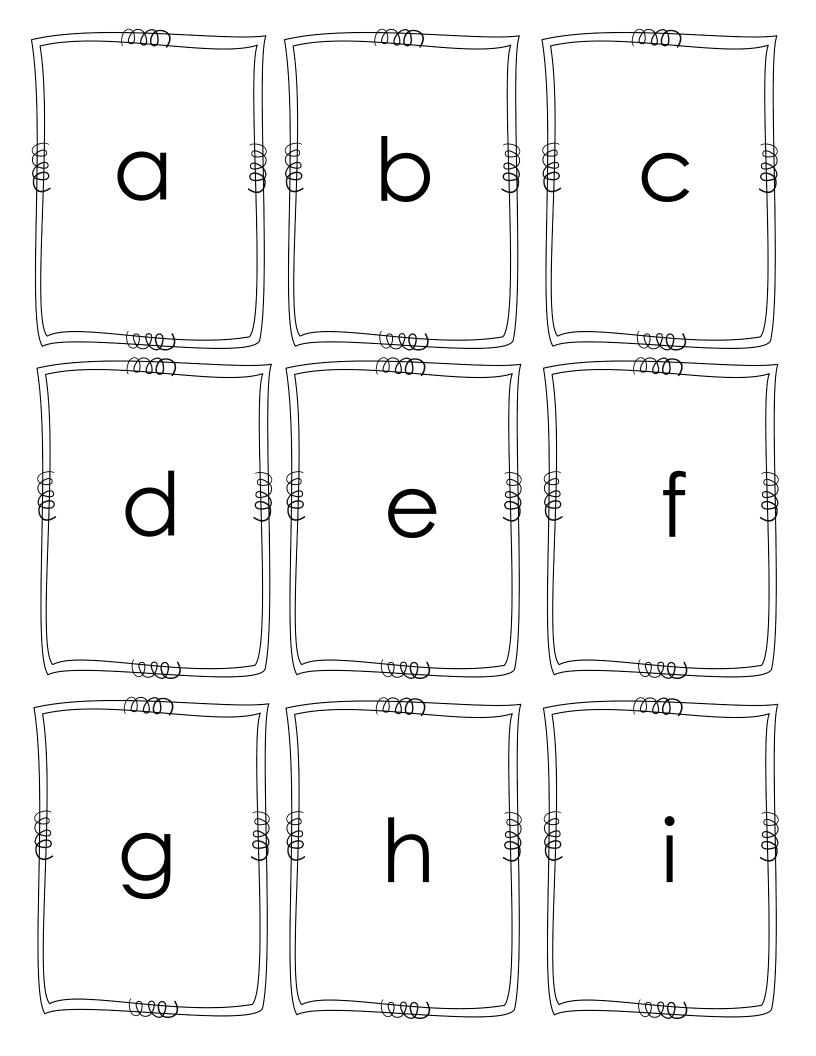
Play concentration with all the cards. Place the cards facedown and have your child try and find the capital and lowercase match. Be sure your child says the name and sound of each letter as they turn the card around.

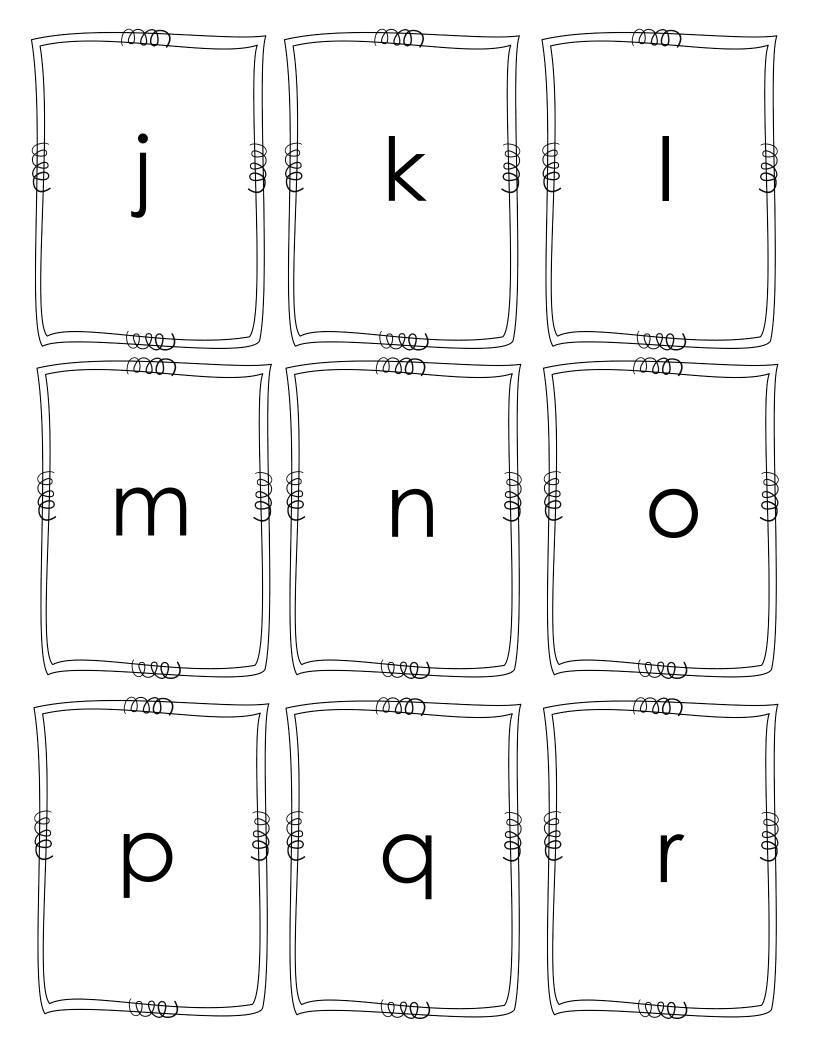
 $_{7}$ Play Spot the Sound. Tape some of the cards around the room and using a flashlight have your child spot the sound. As they find one of the cards with the flashlight have them say the name and sound.

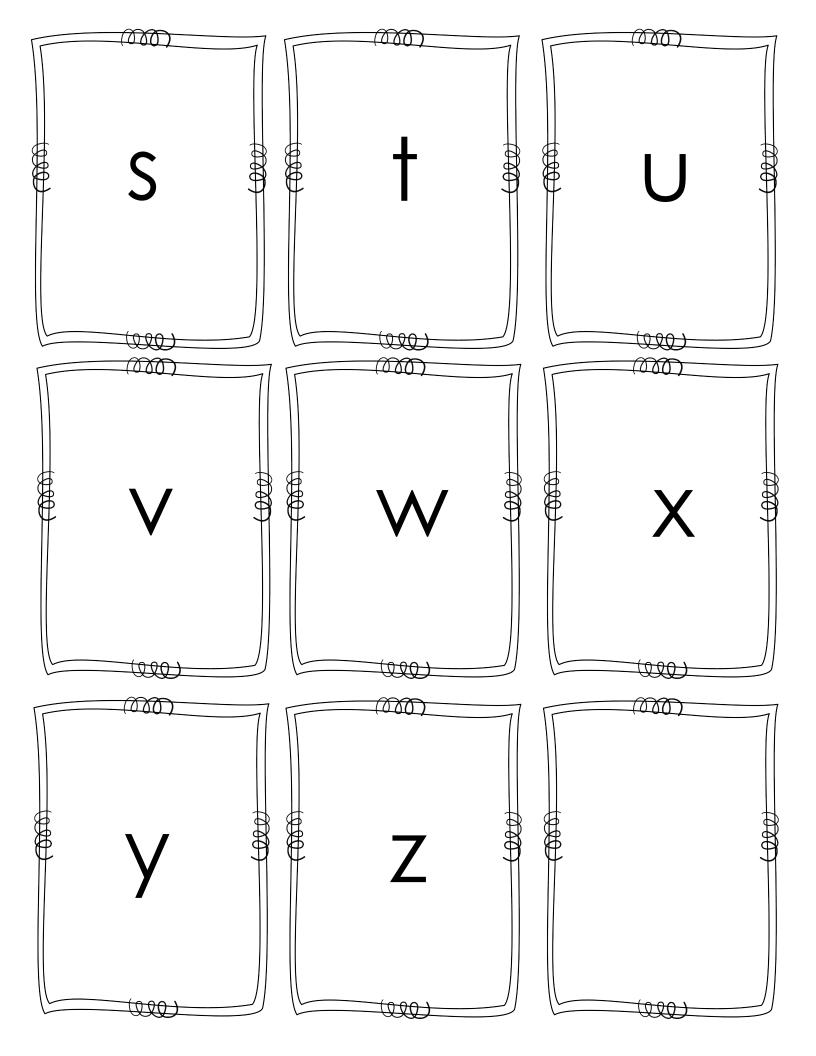
Tape the letters/sounds that your child is having difficulty with along the wall and every time he/she walks along the wall have them pat the card and say the name/sound for that letter.

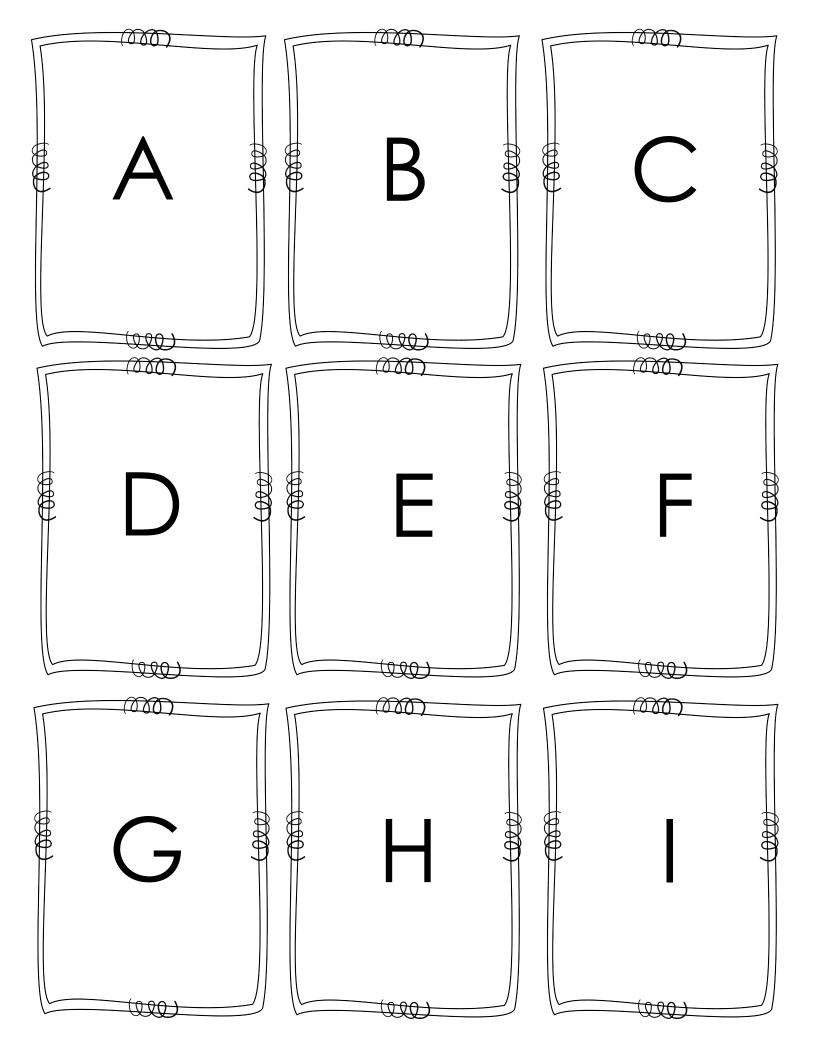


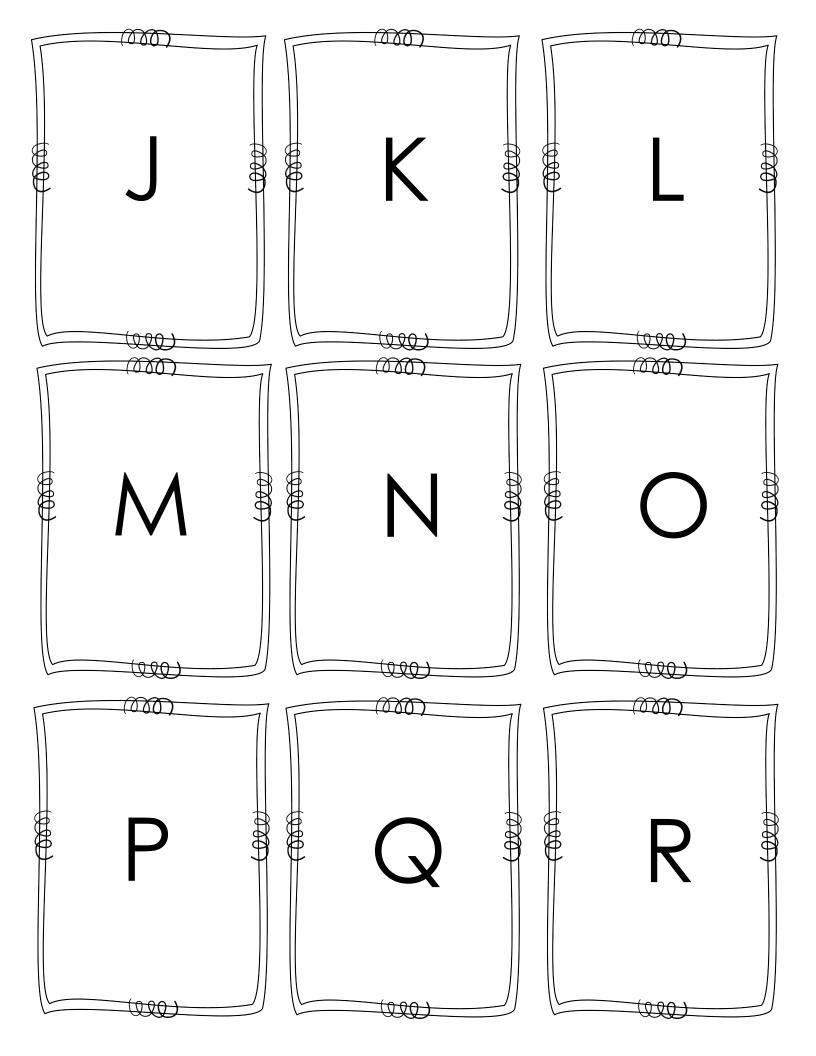


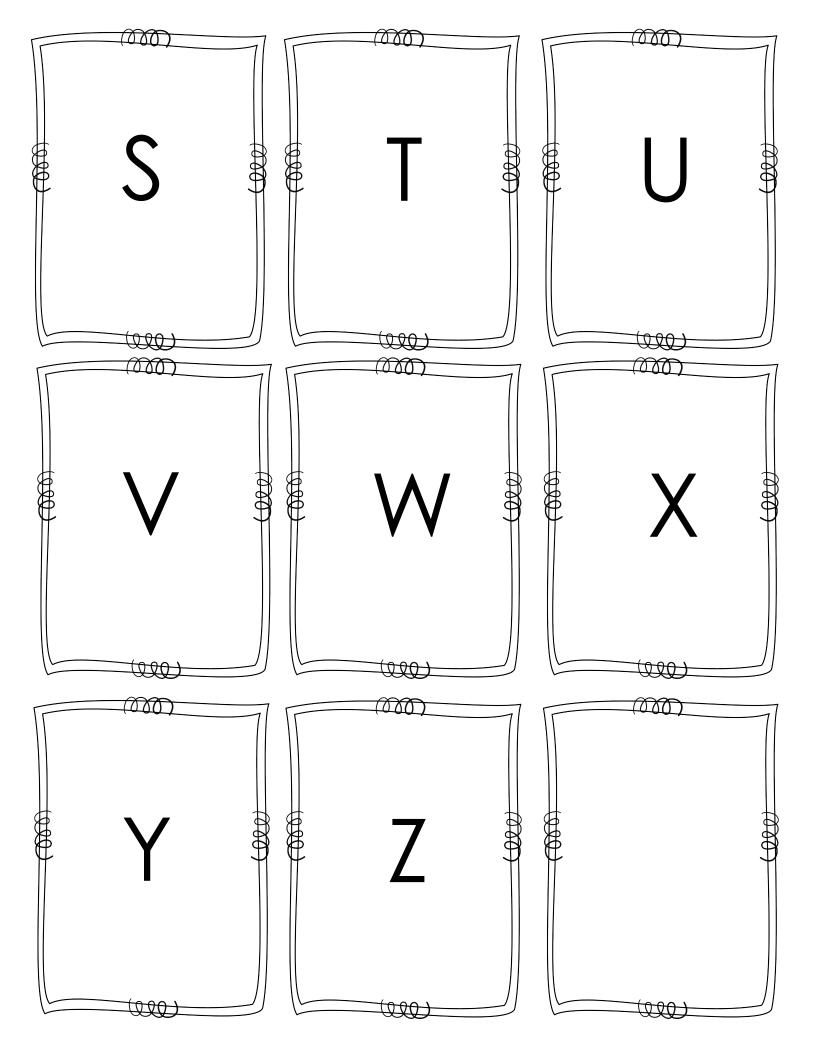












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