

Alphabetic Principle Intervention Activities

These activities can be used in conjunction with each other within a small group setting.

1. **Alphabet Books**- Make alphabet books with your students. At first simply paste or draw pictures of objects beginning with a given letter on its letter page. For example, the Ss page might have a silly smile, a snake, scissors, and spinach. Upon completion of the first step, subsequent alphabet books might carry a theme, such as animals. In this case, the Ss page might have pictures of a squirrel, a snake, and a squid. Taken one step further, the alphabet book might include a combination of pictures and written words that begin with s.
2. **Letter-Sound Puzzles** - Make letter-sound puzzles by purchasing and laminating an alphabet chart with corresponding initial sound pictures. Cut out each letter and picture set and cut off the picture in a jigsaw fashion. Have students match the letters to the pictures that represent the initial sounds. These puzzles are self-correcting when each half only matches its corresponding part and make an ideal center activity for small groups.
3. **I Spy** - Tell students that you see or spy something in the room that begins with the same sound as (for example, *paper*). As students say words, note words with incorrect sounds (“I’m sorry, *box* does not begin like paper”) or say, “The word *pen* begins like *paper*, but it isn’t the word I was thinking.” A more advanced version of the game could involve an ending sound.

Johns, J. & Lenski, S. (2010). *Improving reading: Interventions, strategies, and resources* (5th ed.). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing.