

Buried Treasures

Primary Objectives

16a. Identifies and names letters

Why It's Important

Children begin to understand concepts of print when they are surrounded by a print-rich environment. Activities built around your child's name are meaningful and fun, and they promote his knowledge of the alphabet in a personal way.

Materials

Magnetic letters of your child's name; wand magnet or other type of magnet; sand table or tubs of sand; your child's name written on an index card or other heavy paper

What You Do

1. Begin by burying the magnetic letters in the sand. Begin with a few of the letters in your child's name.
2. Invite your child to go on an imaginary treasure hunt to search for letter treasures. Demonstrate how to wave the wand magnet over the sand.
3. As your child finds each letter, encourage him to name the letter as you talk about its features. *Yes, you found an L. It has two straight lines.*
4. Encourage him to point to the corresponding letter on the name card. When he finds all of the letters, spell out his name and read it together.
5. Continue the activity for as long as your child is interested.