TIP Focus

Alphabetic Knowledge / Exploring with Letters

Book

ABC Look at Me
By: Roberta Intrater

Example or Sample Activity

- Noticing that the same letter can look different, like upper and lower case, is a beginning step for letter knowledge, one of the early literacy skills that children.
- Notice that when you read the book, you pointed to the letter? As we read alphabet books, we tend to point out the letter on the page as we say its name. This does not come so naturally while reading other kinds of books. As you talk about the letter you can point out that the same letter can look different. For example, here’s the letter R. It can look like R or r.
- Other alphabet books can be used also, of course. Look for those, e.g., Dr. Seuss ABC, that have both upper and lower case letters “Big b, little b, etc., throughout.”

TIPS to share with Parents (and this one is excellent for librarians also):

- Talking in a high-pitched tone and stretching out your vowels is common when we encounter babies, “Whoose a prettyy baybeee?” Experts call this musical way of talking “parentese” and report there’s a true value to it. Parentese helps parents and caregivers connect to their babies and helps babies develop language skills.
- Try it out, don’t worry this is an easy thing for librarian to model in B-18 storytimes and it is related to early language development.

Example came from:

Saroj Ghoting: Adapted by Project VIEWS2 Team

Related Indicators:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Educator/Adult</th>
<th>Children</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B-18</td>
<td>Uses “parentese” (high-pitched undulating sounds) when speaking to young children</td>
<td>Shows increasing awareness of sounds of spoken words by focusing on the speaker.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18-36</td>
<td>Prompts children to receipt or sing the letters of the alphabet.</td>
<td>Recited a song with letters of alphabet, with assistance (e.g. an alphabet song or recitation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>36-60</td>
<td>Prompts children to match letters and sounds.</td>
<td>Correctly identifies 10 or more letters of the alphabet.</td>
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