Identify Uppercase and Lowercase Letters 23

Language Objectives

- Identify and name all uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet.
- Distinguish between letters of the alphabet.

Building Literacy

Identifying and naming uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet is an important step in print awareness and reading readiness.

- Learning letter names will help children identify letters as they learn letter sounds.
- Children begin to understand that there is a relationship between written letters and spoken sounds.
- Children begin to understand that print can take many forms—uppercase or lowercase letters, different fonts, different sizes—but it is still print.

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Focus on Language

These English words are used in this lesson. Consider using examples or displaying pictures of each to make sure the English learners have these words in their vocabulary.

alphabet	red
letter	blue
uppercase	column
lowercase	

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Some languages do not use the Roman alphabet that is used in English. Work individually with children from these language backgrounds, and limit the number of letters children work with at one time. Start with fewer letters and increase the number as appropriate. Guide children to find examples of the letters in books and print around the classroom.

23 Identify Uppercase and Lowercase Letters

show me

Write the following letters on the board:

A a J j S s

Point to uppercase *A*. The name of this letter is uppercase *A*. What letter is it? Point to lowercase *a*. The name of this letter is lowercase *a*. What letter is it?

Have children look at p. 89 in their Targeted Lessons Student Book. Point to the first letter in the top row. Is it an uppercase *A* or a lowercase *a*? (uppercase *A*) Now point to the second letter. What letter is it? (lowercase *a*) What do you notice about uppercase *A* and lowercase *a*? That's right, they look different. They are different shapes. Uppercase *A* is tall and lowercase *a* is short. But they are both the letter *a*.

Repeat the same instruction for more letters. Point out that some uppercase and lowercase letters look quite different from each other, such as *Aa*, *Ee*, and *Gg*. Others look just the same but are different sizes, such as *Oo* and *Ss*. Some lowercase letters have descenders: *g*, *j*, *p*, *q*, and *y*.

If children are familiar with an alphabet song, sing the song together and suggest that children point to the appropriate letters in their book as they sing. Today you will learn how to identify and name all the uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet.

23

Identify Uppercase and Lowercase Letters

show me

A a B b C c D d E e F f G g

H h I i J j K k L l M m N n

O o P p Q q R r S s T t

U u V v W w X x Y y Z z

guide me

1. B b e B B
2. n l n r N
3. S t T t t
4. G z g G i

PHONOLOGICAL AND PRINT AWARENESS 89

TEACHING STRATEGIES

If children have difficulty identifying uppercase and lowercase letters, provide them with tactile experiences using sandpaper letters, magnetic letters, and so on. Introduce one or two letters at a time. Help children see similarities in letters, for example: uppercase *E* and uppercase *L* have straight lines; lowercase *b* and lowercase *g* have circles.

guide me

Identify Uppercase and Lowercase Letters Have children point to the 1. The first letter in this row is uppercase *B*. Put your finger on uppercase *B*. Now put your finger on the other letters in the row while I say their names: *lowercase b, lowercase e, uppercase B, uppercase B.* Find each uppercase *B* and draw a circle around it. How many letters did you circle? (3) Now put your finger on the 2. Look across the row as I name the letters: *lowercase n, lowercase l, lowercase n, lowercase r, uppercase N*. Find each lowercase *n* and circle it. How many letters did you circle? (2)

It's your turn to recognize uppercase and lowercase letters. Put your finger on the 3. Look at the letters in the row. Find each lowercase *t* and circle it. How many letters did you circle? (3) Continue with row 4 asking children to find and circle each uppercase *G*. Guide children to notice distinguishing features of the letters and identify uppercase and lowercase letters.

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work time

Task 1 Have children look at p. 90 from the Targeted Lessons Student Book and find the 5. There are uppercase and lowercase letters in this row. Look at them carefully. Which letters are uppercase *D*? Circle them. Check to see that children circled the first and fourth letters in the row. Continue similarly with rows 6–8. Ask children to find the letters you name and circle them.

Row 6: Circle lowercase *k*.

Row 7: Circle uppercase *W*.

Row 8: Circle lowercase *c*.

Task 2 Find the 9 and point to it. There are uppercase letters and lowercase letters all mixed up in this box. Circle each uppercase letter in red. Circle each lowercase letter in blue. Check children as they work independently and offer assistance to any who need it.

23 Identify Uppercase and Lowercase Letters

work time

5. D f d D y

6. A k k o U

7. j W M x W

8. c E q c N

9. J A k g I e

s b Q T c m

F i H P E R

Children should circle these letters in red: J, A, I, Q, T, F, H, P, E, R. They should circle these letters in blue: k, g, e, s, b, c, m, i.

90 PHONOLOGICAL AND PRINT AWARENESS

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guide me

Match Uppercase and Lowercase Letters Have children look at p. 91 from the Targeted Lessons Student Book. Find the 10 and put your finger on the first letter. It is uppercase *S*. Now look at the other letters in the row. Which is the matching lowercase letter? (the third letter, lowercase *s*) Draw a circle around lowercase *s*.

Find the 11 and look at the first letter. What letter is it? (uppercase *V*) Look at the other letters in the row. Which is the matching lowercase letter? (the last one, lowercase *v*) Draw a circle around it. Continue with 12–17. Guide children to look at the first letter in each row and then find and circle the matching lowercase letter.

Identify Uppercase and Lowercase Letters 23

guide me

10.	S	f	p	s	u
11.	V	a	x	q	v
12.	M	j	m	s	d
13.	O	o	b	i	w
14.	Y	n	y	z	r
15.	B	k	t	m	b
16.	U	u	g	y	b
17.	E	c	l	e	h

PHONOLOGICAL AND PRINT AWARENESS 91

TEACHING STRATEGIES

If children have difficulty matching uppercase and lowercase letters, provide practice by playing a game. Prepare a set of letter cards. Write each uppercase letter and each lowercase letter on a card, making two cards for each letter. Start with 3–4 letter pairs (6–8 cards). Place them facedown and have children take turns turning over two cards at a time. If the cards are an uppercase and lowercase match, children name the letters and keep the cards. When children seem comfortable recognizing the letter pairs, play with different letters.

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work time

Have children look at p. 92 from the Targeted Lessons Student Book and point to the 18. There are two columns of letters in this box. Start at the top of the first column. Put your finger on each letter in the column as I name it: *uppercase A, uppercase Z, uppercase E, uppercase Q, uppercase T*. Now go back to uppercase *A* at the top of the column. Which is the matching letter in the second column? Draw a line from uppercase *A* to its matching lowercase letter. Look at the next letter in the first column, uppercase *Z*. Which is the matching lowercase letter in the second column? Draw a line from uppercase *Z* to its matching lowercase letter. Continue with the remaining uppercase letters in the box. Guide children to draw a line from each uppercase letter in the left column to the matching lowercase letter in the right column.

To complete the remainder of the page, tell children to look at the columns of letters in each box and draw lines to connect each uppercase letter with its matching lowercase letter.

23 Identify Uppercase and Lowercase Letters

work time

18. A Z E Q T — q e t a z

19. B G K N J — k g j b n

20. C H W L P — c l p w h

21. D F I X R — i x r d f

92 PHONOLOGICAL AND PRINT AWARENESS

check for understanding

Let's see what you learned about identifying uppercase and lowercase letters. I'm going to write some letters on the board. Then you'll tell me the letter names. Ready? Let's start with this. Write several uppercase and lowercase letters on the board in random order. For example:

D a f M P x

Point to a letter and ask a child to name it. Or, you might want to name a letter and have a child point to that letter on the board. Continue the activity by writing children's names instead of random letters. Write two or three names at a time. Have children identify the letters in each name, telling if each letter is uppercase or lowercase. Then have them identify letters that are the same in two children's names.

reflect

Have children turn and talk to a partner about what they have learned. What did you learn about identifying uppercase and lowercase letters? If time permits, allow children to choose a book from the classroom or school library. Have them identify uppercase and lowercase letters on a page of the book. For each uppercase letter they find, challenge them to see if they can find a matching lowercase letter.

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Identify Uppercase and Lowercase Letters

show me

A a B b C c D d E e F f G g

H h I i J j K k L l M m N n

O o P p Q q R r S s T t

U u V v W w X x Y y Z z

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guide me

1. B b e B B

2. n l n r N

3. S t T t t

4. G z g G i

23 Identify Uppercase and Lowercase Letters

work time

5. D f d D y

6. A k k o U

7. j W M x W

8. c E q c N

9. J A k g I e

s b Q T c m

F i H P E R

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guide me

10.	S	f	p	s	u
11.	V	a	x	q	v
12.	M	j	m	s	d
13.	O	o	b	i	w
14.	Y	n	y	z	r
15.	B	k	t	m	b
16.	U	u	g	y	b
17.	E	c	l	e	h

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work time

18.	A	q	19.	B	k
	Z	e		G	g
	E	t		K	j
	Q	a		N	b
	T	z		J	n
20.	C	c	21.	D	i
	H	l		F	x
	W	p		I	r
	L	w		X	d
	P	h		R	f

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