Helping Your Beginning Reader at Home

Session One: Letter/Sound Relationships

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Virginia Tech
Welcome & Introductions
Rachelle Kuehl

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- Ph.D in Curriculum & Instruction, Virginia Tech (expected May 2020)
- Ed.S, Reading Specialist (VT, May)
- Former first-grade teacher
Checklist for Every Class/Home this Year

✓ Keep them safe
✓ Lower their anxiety about the current situation
✓ Make them laugh
✓ Make them feel loved
✓ Teach them something

*All in that order*
Series Overview
Tuesdays, 6:00-7:00 p.m., September 22nd to October 13th

- **Session 1 (9/22)**
  Letter/Sound Relationships

- **Session 2 (9/29)**
  High-Frequency Words

- **Session 3 (10/6)**
  Fluency: Choosing and Practicing “Just Right” Stories

- **Session 4 (10/13)**
  Comprehension: Helping Your Child Understand the Story
CONCEPT OF PRINT
Concept of Print

The ability to recognize that print moves from left to right, and that spaces between words create boundaries.

The ability to recognize that words carry meaning.

Check:
Can your child identify a letter? A word?
Can your child point to the words as you read?
Does your child know which direction to read in?
Letter Names and Sounds
Alphabetic Principle

**PHONEMES**
The smallest sounds into which speech can be broken

/v/ /a/ /p/  
“map”

**GRAPHEMES**
The letters or groups of letters that are used to represent phonemes in written language

/m/ /a/ /p/  
$m + a + p$
First step:
Find out which letters and sounds your child already knows.
Help your child practice writing and building letters in fun ways!
Magnetic Letters
Keep magnetic letters on the fridge or with a cookie sheet.

**Ask questions like:**
*Can you find the “h”?*
*Can you find your name?*
*Can you find the letter that begins with /b/ like “banana”?*
*Can you find the letter that comes after “e”?*
*What sound do you hear at the end of “cat”? Can you find the letter that makes that sound?*

The whole set can be overwhelming, so start with fewer letters for brand-new readers.
Phonemic Awareness
Phoneme Segmentation
Breaking a word into its separate sounds
fog = /f/ /o/ /g/

Phoneme Blending
Putting the separate sounds together into a word
/h/ /e/ /n/ = hen
Elkonin boxes

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You can start with just two boxes and work on separating the first sound (/p/) from the rest (-ig).

Push a penny into a box for every sound you hear in “pig”.

/p/  /i/  /g/
Card Games
Card games:
Quite possibly my best early reading “trick”!
“I’m thinking of a color. It starts with /r/. Which one is it—GREEN, BLUE, or RED?”

“Now I’m thinking of a new color. It starts with /b/. Which one is it—GREEN, BLUE, or YELLOW?”

Remove and replace the red card!

Keep going!

Ask about ending sounds next!
1. Lay out three animal cards: TURTLE, SNAIL, BEE. Say, “I’m thinking of an animal that starts with the /t/ sound. Which one is it?” [Read the animal names while pointing to the cards.]

2. When the child comes up with the correct card, replace it with MONKEY. Now ask about a different beginning sound. “Now I’m thinking of an animal that starts with the /b/ sound.”

3. Continue asking and replacing until you’ve cycled through all cards.

4. For an extra challenge, play again, but this time ask about the ending sound. For example, with LION/ALLIGATOR/BUTTERFLY, you would ask, “Which one of these animal names ends in /n/?”

5. To help students listen for the second sound in a word, try grouping cards with the same first letter together (FROG/FIREFLIES, BEE/BUTTERFLY, LADYBUG/LION), with one additional card. For example, with BEE/BUTTERFLY/MONKEY, You would start by saying, “I’m thinking of an animal that starts with /b/. Help them see there are two, then say, “OK, but the one I’m thinking about has a second sound: /ee/. Which one is it?”
ABC Book
BIG H,
little h,
what begins with H?

Hungry horse.
Hen in hat.
H...h...H

BIG J,
little j,
what begins with J?

Jerry Jordan’s
jelly jar.
J...j...J

BIG I,
little i,
what begins with I?

Itchy, itchy
Ichabod.
I...i...I
*Make one page at a time
*Draw simple pictures
*Include friends and family
*Add stickers
*Hang pages on the wall
*Compile into a book to read again and again!
ABC Bingo
## ABC BINGO

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![Sesame Street Cookie Monster Letter of the Day Bingo](image)

Handout 1.04
ABC Memory
**ABC Memory**

*You can start with fewer pairs of letters and work up to the whole alphabet.*

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**Handout 1.05**
Picture & Word Sorts
Rhyming Books
Resources
Google Drive Links

Download the Powerpoint and handout for tonight

Download all the resources:

- 1.01, Letter/Sound Identification Assessment
- 1.02, Elkonin Boxes
- 1.03, Bingo cards
- 1.04, Memory cards
- 1.05, Directions for phonemic awareness card games

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1VkSzLmolNsC7ryxvp0be-U3s6OBOU8hH?usp=sharing
Questions?
Upcoming Sessions
Tuesdays, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

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Please email me at rkuehl@vt.edu if you have a specific question related to these topics that I could address during the workshops!