



Alphabet A to Z Parent Guide



Benefits

- When you use these stacking blocks and books with your child, age 2 and older, you encourage reading, writing, and learning early concepts.
- Children love stacking and nesting blocks. The play and matching element of this learning set engages children and holds their attention, as well as promotes fine motor skills.
- This set teaches the alphabet as well as other skills like sequencing, rhyming, attention to details, visual figure ground, listening skills and size concepts.
- Encourage and enjoy your child's sense of discovery. When you playfully assist in your child's learning, education is fun—a lesson that lasts a lifetime!

Activities

- Help your child stack the blocks, matching one side together to complete the sequence and/or image. Repeat this with each side of the blocks to reinforce letter recognition and sequencing. There are four vertical combinations, and one horizontal.
- Read each book together, pointing to words as you sound them out and pointing to the image that represents the word. Explain that pictures represent objects, and so do words!
- Name something in the room or outside that begins with a letter highlighted in the book you are reading, which will help your child understand letter sounds even better.
- When teaching the alphabet, have your child try to draw the letters. (Begin with capital letters, which are easier.) Show your child how to draw that letter slowly so that he or she can imitate you. Encourage him or her to trace, or use a stencil to help even more. Drawing letters is difficult at first, so try to be very encouraging.
 - Draw the same letter with different colors or draw a certain number of the same letter.
 - Try drawing the alphabet with crayon, pencil, paint, or in the sand.

Helpful Hints

- Be sure to turn off the television and radio during learning and playtime so that your child can concentrate on your voice and the activity you are doing together.
- Speak slowly and clearly with an animated voice to keep your child's interest and attention.
- Always follow your child's lead. A child will lose interest when a skill is much too difficult. For example, if writing a letter is too tricky for a young child, encourage him or her to name the pictures or find a letter that you name from a small group of letters. Don't show frustration in educational play but slow down and/or try an easier task to maintain your child's willingness to participate in educational games.
- Your patience and enthusiasm encourage the same behavior and positive attitude in your child, building a love of learning from early on.
- Repetition helps children learn.

**Children will love
to stack and nest
the 5 blocks!**

