

## Letter Clues

### **What are “Letter Clues” and why are they important?**

“Letter Clues” is a strategy that helps your child identify letters and sounds of the alphabet. This is an important step in learning to read.

### **How can I use “Letter Clues” with my child?**

Help your child learn the names, shapes, and sounds of letters of the alphabet in a playful way. Introduce one letter at a time. You may write the letter, use magnetic letters, or use an alphabet book to study the letter. Point out the unique combinations of lines and curves that form each letter. For example, you may suggest that an “H” looks like two straight lines with a bridge between them. Or, an “N” has two straight lines with a slide between them. You can also tell your child the sound associated with the letter. After your child learns the upper case letter, introduce the same lower case letter. It helps to begin with letters that are in your child’s name. Continue to introduce letters and review them daily until your child is aware of the differences among letters and can identify them.

Your child develops knowledge of letters over time through continual exposure to them. Making alphabet puzzles, identifying letters in books and writing them will reinforce your child’s learning.

## Letter Clues

- A - 2 slides with a bridge
- a - ½ a circle with a gate
- B - straight line with 2 bumps
- b - a straight line with a tummy
- C - ½ a circle
- c - a small ½ a circle
- D - straight line with 1 bump or with a big tummy
- d - a straight line with a tummy going the wrong way
- E - straight line with 3 arms
- e - a ½ a circle with a shelf
- F - straight line with 2 arms
- f - a straight line with 1 arm and an awning
- G - ½ circle with a shelf
- g - a ½ circle with a fish hook
- H - 2 straight lines with a bridge
- h - a straight line with a croquet goal or with a flower protector fence
- I - straight line with a hat and feet
- i - a ½ straight line with a dot
- J - fish hook with a hat
- j - a small fish hook with a dot
- K - straight line with an arm and a leg kicking
- k - a straight line with a small arm and leg kicking
- L - straight line with a foot
- l - a straight line
- M - 2 straight lines with a vase in the middle
- m - 2 croquet goals or two flower protector fences
- N - 2 straight lines with a slide in between
- n - a croquet goal or one flower protector fence
- O - a circle
- o - a small circle
- P - a straight line with a head
- p - a small straight line with a head
- Q - a circle with a tail
- q - a straight line with a head looking backward
- R - a straight line with a head and foot kicking
- r - a straight line with an awning
- S - a curved line like a snake
- s - a small curved line like a snake
- T - a straight line with a hat
- t - a cross
- U - a curved line that looks like a cup
- u - a small curved line that looks like a cup
- V - 2 lines that look like a vase
- v - 2 small lines that look like a vase
- W - 4 lines that look like 2 connected vases
- w - 4 small lines that look like 2 connected vases
- X - 2 crossed lines that look like a seesaw
- x - 2 small crossed lines that look like a seesaw
- Y - 3 lines that look like a vase on a stand
- y - a vase with a curved tail
- Z - a slide with a hat and foot
- z - a small slide with a hat and foot