

Initial Sounds Pieces



Product Code

LI00230

Introduction

These wooden initial sounds pieces can be used for a variety of the activities recommended in Phase 1 and 2 of the Letters and Sounds Document. As each letter of the alphabet is represented by a selection of objects with initial sounds that sound very different to one another, (for example, 'a' is represented by an image of an apple, ant and an apron) the pieces are also suitable for teaching the alphabet, letter recognition and beginning sounds.

Suggestions

The following activities are taken from Phase 1 of the Letters and Sounds Document. The aims of the activities are to develop an understanding of alliteration and the recognition of different beginning sounds.

- Digging for Treasure – Collect two sets of objects suitable for use in the sand tray. Each set of objects must have names beginning with the same initial sound. Choose initial sounds for each set that sound very different from one another; bury the objects in preparation for the session. As the children uncover the treasure, group the objects by initial sound and each time another is added recite the content of that set.
- Our Sound Bag – Make collections of objects with names beginning with the same sound. Create a song, such as 'What have we got in our sound box today?' and then show the objects one at a time. Emphasise the initial sound.
- Silly Soup – Provide the children with a selection of items with names that begin with the same sound. Show them how you can make some 'silly soup' by putting 'ingredients' (pieces that begin with the same letter) into a pan in the role play area.

Initial Sounds Pieces

Some of the initial sound piece can also be used as a visual aid for use in practising blending and segmenting words in Phases 2 and 3 of Letters and Sounds. (e.g. – show the children one of the illustrated pieces and sound out the letters.

Additional Activities

- There are many additional activities which can be used for exploring the alphabet and beginning sounds with your class. As many of the pieces as required can be used depending on the activity.
- Alphabet Bag – pick 26 of the pieces – one for each letter of the alphabet and place in alphabetical order.
- Ask the children to find the letter that their name begins with.
- Beginning Sounds Bingo - Give each child a set of pieces which represent different letters. Hide in a bag a set of pieces with the same letters that you have given the children. As each piece is drawn out of the bag, invite the children to call out when they see a piece which begins with the same letter as their piece.
- Odd One Out – Put out a set of four or five pieces, three that begin with the same initial sound and two that begin with another sound. Ask the children to identify the 'odd ones out'.
- Treasure Hunt – use the pieces to play a treasure hunt game – e.g. – give each child a piece and hide the other pieces around the class or outdoor area. Then let the children hunt out the piece with the same initial sound.
- Circle Alphabet Hunt - Using 2 pieces to represent each letter – give out the pieces so that each child has one. Go around the circle and ask the children to say the name of their piece. Then announce it's 'alphabet hunt' time and ask the children to stand with the child that has a piece starting with the same initial sounds as theirs.

Care Instructions

Wipe clean with a damp cloth
Do not use in water

