

Leaping Letters

Learning letters is more efficient when the brain and body can connect through movement, sensory exploration and the use of both hands at the same time.

✍ Let's Move

- Sidewalk chalk
 - Using water and a paintbrush
- Body fun - make letters using the body or partners
- Rope fun - use a rope to form a BIG letter
- Obstacle letters - create an obstacle course of large letters on the floor with an activity at each letter
- Letter on the floor - using painters tape, form a letter on the floor
 - Crab walk
 - Walk forward and backwards
 - Push an object with a dowel rod
 - Scooterboard
 - Drive a car
 - Push a ball, use a paint roller
 - Hop, jump or spin



✍ Let's glue - make texture cards using blank index cards

- Noodles or rice
- Jello
- Sand, cornmeal, birdseed
- Yarn, cotton balls, pom poms, pipe cleaners
- Colored glue, puff paints, glitter glue
- Mini colored marshmallows
- Rubberbands
- Sticky wicky
- Sandpaper



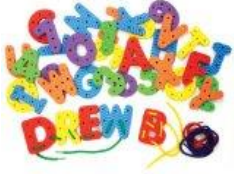
✍ Let's pretend form letters from a sample

- Air write with streamers
- Carpet write
- Clay tray
- Gel bags
- Sand trays - colored sands
- Feet play
- Two are better than one - use both hands to doodle
- Buddy writing- form a letter on a friend and have that friend guess what letter was written on the palm or back



✍ Let's play

- It's in the bag - place magnetic letters in a bag and allow student to guess
- "I spy" - I see the letter "b"
- Mirror match - sounds like
- Hiding letters - place magnetic letters around the room and the child has to find the letter on his cue card
- Memory match with alphabet cards
- Letter sort - use alphabet pasta and sort letters
- Alphabet cards - find a word that starts with
 - Folder games - match upper and lower case letters
 - Go fishing - Discovery toys / homemade (use a dowel rod with a string and a magnet on the end to catch laminated fish shapes with letters)



- Handwriting without tears wooden pieces
- Letter stamps or stamp a letter shape
- Cut a letter - shape, magazines, newspaper
- Alphabet bingo
- Alphabet puzzles
- Playdo letters
- Corkboard letters - take a piece of corkboard and tackpins
- Lacing letters
- Geoboard with rubber bands and letter cue cards (contact made2move: therapy4kids for geoboard alphabet and number cue cards)
- Scavenger hunt- place laminated letters on the jungle gym, roll an alphabet dice and have the student retrieve that letter by completing the activity
- Animal alphabet - imitate animals for rote a-z



Stamps



Geoboard

✍ Let's solve - what's missing

- Alphabet cards - sequence letters / omit one and which is missing
- Magnetic pieces

✍ Let's paint

- Sponge or roller paint
- Rubberband paint
- Paint brush and water on chalkboard
- Paint on newspaper wall
- Finger paint with Pudding, shaving cream, cool whip, finger paint



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✍ Let's write - no pencils allowed

- Alphabet 3-D book
- Printing book - outlines with dry erase
- Magna doodle
- Chalkboard and paint brushes with waters
- Styrofoam trays
- Dry-erase boards
- Writing bumps - change the surface/texture by placing something under the paper and using a large crayon
 - Sandpaper
 - Shelf liner (Ikea has some clear with bumps)
 - Rice paper - glue rice onto a plain sheet and allow to dry
 - Sponges
 - Fun foam
 - Carpet



✍ Roll of the dice

- alphabet dice
- letter and object dice



✍ Double doodle - use both hands at the same time

- Etch a sketch
- Double doodle artwork



✍ Let's grip - watch the size of the implement

- Crayons
- Markers
- Vibrating pens, Squiggle pen
- Chalk
- Glue pens

