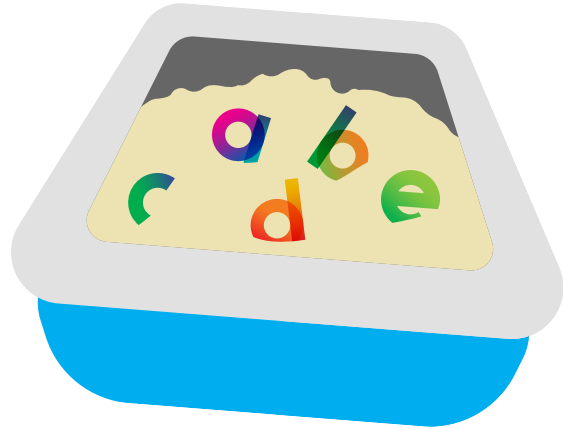


Buried Letters



LEARNING DOMAIN:
Language & Literacy

In this game, children will practice naming letters and their associated sounds through a game of finding buried letters. Working with letters one at a time helps children learn their names and sounds and develop print awareness, which are important pre-reading skills.

Materials

- Plastic letters
- dish pan
- Corn meal, oatmeal, or rice

Pour the corn meal/oatmeal/rice into the pan and bury the letters.

Tips

- This activity can also be used while riding in the car, naming things that you see en route or things you find in the car.
- Try this activity when preparing your child for school or nightly care routines by sounding out words such as bath, bed, dinner, etc.

Let's Play!

Introduce the activity by letting your child know that you are going to get to dig for buried letters in the (sand, rice, etc) and name each letter.

Demonstrate for your child by digging with your hands in the pan and pulling out a letter. Tell your child the name of the letter, the sound it makes, and a word that starts with that letter.

Now encourage your child to dig for a letter. Ask your child for the letter name, and if s/he knows the name, ask for its sound and a word that begins with that letter. If your child cannot give a correct answer, help him/her by giving a clue (e.g., "This is the letter that says "Buh") or by naming the letter for them.

Continue taking turns in this game until all the letters are found!

