

Now I Know My ABCs: Ages 5-Kindergarten

Children who are able to name the letters of the alphabet will:

- Be more successful readers in the future.
- Be able to spend more time in Kindergarten using the sounds of the letters instead of learning their names.



Ideas to try with your child:

- Teach your child the letters in her own name.
- Practice identifying letters in magazines, newspapers, signs and food containers.
 - “I see a letter in your name. Lara can you find the letter ‘L’ in the magazine?”
- Help your child practice saying the alphabet in English and in their home language (if bilingual).
- Sequence the alphabet using magnetic letters, ABC cards, or an iPad app.
- Play memory match with ABC cards-you will need two sets of ABC cards (cards can be made at home using recipe cards or paper cut into cards.)

If your child is struggling:

- Look at and read ABC books that are chosen by your child.
- Sing the ABC song and leave out letters, letting your child fill them in for you.

Going further:

- Start teaching the sounds of the letters your child can name.
- Point out the letters in the middle of words and how they sound.
- There are many FREE iPad apps that have been created to help with alphabet and phonemic knowledge:



Starfall



ABC Pocket
Phonics



Phonics
Fun



Magnetic
Alphabet

The WA State Department of Early Learning and the Richland School District believes that parents, families, and caregivers are young children’s best teachers. This resource guide, part of *Strong Foundations for School: Resource Guides for Parents of Young Children*, highlights a key developmental skill for **children of Kindergarten age** that parents can help improve at home.

Adapted from *WA State Early Learning and Development Guidelines, 2012*: “Associate the letters with their sounds.” *Communicating (literacy), Ages 5 and Kindergarten*, pg. 92

