

Practice activities

- Get learners to practise forming the letter:
 - They can trace over their copy of the letter template. (If you have given them each a sandpaper letter, they can trace over this.)
 - They can form the letter in the sand tray, in the air or on each other's backs.
 - They can sculpt the letter from modelling clay or play dough.
 - They can use chalk to draw a big version of the letter on the paving in the playground and then 'work out' the shape.
 - They can work in pairs and twist and turn their bodies to make the shape of the letter.
- Let learners decorate the letters. Provide them with any materials they may need to make a three-dimensional letter for themselves. (For example, give each learner a small piece of cottonwool so they can decorate their c-letter templates to look like clouds.)
- Encourage them to talk about the sound of the letter as they work.
- Place pegboards, pegs and pegboard cards of the letter you are teaching on a table for learners to do in their free time.
- Let learners browse through magazines looking for pictures of things that begin with the letter you are teaching.
- Encourage learners to find the letter in their names (not just at the beginning of their names).
- Play lots of listening games where the learner has to listen for the sound being taught. For example, list four words, only one of which starts with the letter being taught, and ask learners to put up their hands when they hear the correct sound.
- Say a CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) word – for example, 'cat', c-a-t – and ask learners to say what the first sound is and what the last sound is.

Refer to the Lesson Plan book for letter-specific activities.

Remember that you will NOT be able to facilitate all of these activities in a single day. Choose ones that will best reinforce the learning experience for YOUR learners.

How to deal with capital letters:

The capital letter is introduced in a less formal way. This is done because learners are used to seeing capitals in their names. All other printed labels, except for names, must be presented in the lower case.