

Alphabet Silicone Mats

The alphabet is a key building block, so we need to make sure children are confident with recognising and naming both letter names and letter sounds.

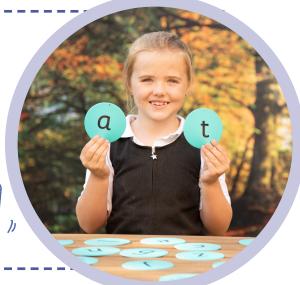
Let this collection of engaging activities inspire you to use the alphabet mats to help your children learn the alphabet.

Alphabet Hop Hunt

- Lay the alphabet mats in a line or in an arc.
- Children start by standing on the letter 'a'.
- They must roll a dice and move forward that number of letters.
- Once they land on a letter, they must say the letter name and letter sound aloud.
- How many rolls of the dice does it to take to get to the end of the alphabet?

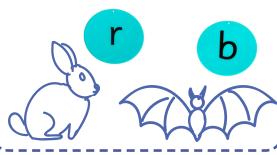
You could complete this activity with more than one child and add a challenge of who can make it to the end of the alphabet first.





Alphabet Trail

- Lay out the alphabet mats in a trail around your indoor or outdoor space. You can choose whether to put them in order or not depending on your objective.
- Ask children to follow the trail saying the letter name and letter sound as they stand on a mat.
- Extend this activity by going on a scavenger hunt to find an object that begins with each letter.



Swat the alphabet

- Lay the alphabet mats out in a random order and give the child playing a fly swat.
- The child must say the alphabet aloud in order and as they say each letter, they find the matching mat and 'swat' it!

Alphabet Caterpillar

- Create a caterpillar head and tail. You could decorate paper plates or be as creative as you like.
- Lay the head and tail down on the floor and children can use the alphabet mats to create an alphabet caterpillar with all of the letters in order.

Name Hop

- Lay out the alphabet mats on the floor. They do not have to be in order.
- Children then have to say the letters that make up their name and hop onto

the different mats to spell it out.

When children are ready, they could do this same activity but hop on letters to spell out words instead.



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Letter Soup

- Put the alphabet mats in your water tray (you could add some sea creatures too).
- Children then go fishing for alphabet letters using
- When they have caught one, the children must say the letter name and letter sound out loud.
- Can they think of a word that begins that with that letter?

Big Dig

- In a sandpit, bury a selection of the alphabet mats and objects that begin with those letters.
- Children take it in turns to dia for an alphabet mat. They must then dig to find an object that begins with that letter.
- Repeat until all of the mats and objects have been paired up and found.

What's the letter?

- Hang the alphabet mats on an outside wall or fence.
- Children can work in pairs. Give one child a feather duster, water pistol or something similar and they must tickle or squirt the sound that their partner says.
- Alternatively, one partner can tickle or squirt a sound and the other must say aloud the letter name.

Match it!

- For this activity you could use upper case magnetic letters or write out a set on paper plates.
- Lay the alphabet mats on the floor.
- Children choose an upper case letter and they must find the matching lowercase letter.
- Add a challenge by timing them and seeing how quickly they can do it. Why not keep practising to try and improve the time?

etter Formation

- Give children a paint pot full of water and a paintbrush. Explain that they have very special invisible ink and that they must use it to practise writing their letters.
- Children use the paintbrush to write over the top of the printed letters on the alphabet mats. You could put a small sticker on the mat to show where to begin.

