



ABC Skills Workbooks

Here's What You Get!

- 10 ABC Skills Workbooks
- Teacher's Activity Guide

Introduction:

Writing is an important part of life. For young children, writing is about putting thoughts on paper and learning to express themselves in non-verbal ways. In this context, writing is not the same as handwriting. Handwriting is a fine motor skill, attached to the alphabet, which will eventually help children write words and sentences. However, handwriting and letter formation are important skills that will help children develop fine motor skills and begin to make the connection between speaking, reading and writing. Even though recognizing the letters of the alphabet is a critical beginning skill, talking about letter sounds and associating these sounds with letters is an advisable next step.

The ABC Skills Workbook helps children practice writing each letter of the alphabet while seeing two pictures of objects that begin with that letter. There is also space to draw additional objects that begin with the same letter. The emphasis for each page is to reinforce recognition of the letter, recognition of the sound the letter makes and discovery of other items that also begin with that letter.

It is advised to have children practice identifying letters using concrete letters (e.g. magnetic letters) or forming letters out of dough or other materials prior to having them try to write the letters with a writing instrument. Children should also have enough fine motor skills to be able to hold a writing instrument and make an attempt at forming letters.

Use ABC Skills Workbooks to address these Core Standards and these Preschool Objectives from POCET™*

- Identifying letters of the alphabet
- Connecting sounds to the letters of the alphabet
- Recognizing beginning letters in familiar words and names
- Understanding the connection between spoken and written words and that spoken words can be written down
- Understanding that writing is a way of communicating
- Experimenting with different writing tools and materials
- Progressing from using scribbles to letter-like symbols

*POCET™ Preschool Observation Checklist and Evaluation Tool is available online at: www.DiscountSchoolSupply.com

ABC Skills Workbooks (continued)**Suggested Activities:**

- The workbooks do not need to be completed in order. You may want to use each page at different times when you are talking about a given letter. Often, the letters in children's first names are a good place to begin.
 - Give the children basic directions on how to form the letter that you have chosen for the day. The children should also have background knowledge of that letter, having manipulated concrete letters (e.g. magnetic, plastic or wooden letters) prior to being asked to write the letter. The children should also have a solid background of using writing instruments.
 - As children begin the reading and writing process, it is important for them to begin to make the connection between reading and writing. Find other examples around the room of the letter you are having them write in the workbook.
 - Talk about the sound a letter makes when working on that page. Draw attention to the pictures on the page that begins with that sound. Have the children think of other items that begin with that same sound. Have them draw as many items as space will allow. You may want to provide extra paper for additional pictures.
- Allow the children to use different writing instruments to write the letters and draw pictures in the workbook. Crayons, markers, colored pencils, stampers and stamp pads are a few suggestions. (Be careful when using markers, as some may bleed through onto other pages.)
 - If the children are developmentally ready, place the workbooks in a writing center and allow them to complete a page.
 - When talking about a certain letter, have the children take that page of the workbook on a walk around the neighborhood. Have them draw pictures of any items that begin with that letter that they find while on the walk.
 - These workbooks may be a helpful contribution to parent conferences. Share the workbook with family members when they visit as a way to exhibit their child's progression with fine motor skills.



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