

Sorting Sticks: Beginning Consonants

This Really Good Stuff® product includes:

- 72 color-coded *Sorting Sticks*
- This Really Good Stuff® Instructional Guide

Congratulations on your purchase of **Sorting Sticks: Beginning Consonants**, a fun exercise for taking this most basic phonemic awareness skill to the next level.

Meeting the Standards

Really Good Stuff® **Sorting Sticks: Beginning Consonants** aligns with the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts below. For alignment with other state standards, please refer to our website's Standards Match.

Phonological Awareness

RF.K.2.d Isolate and pronounce the initial, medial vowel, and final sounds (phonemes) in three-phoneme (consonant-vowel-consonant, or CVC) words. (This does not include CVCs ending with /l/, /r/, or /x/.)

RF.1.2.c Isolate and pronounce initial, medial vowel, and final sounds (phonemes) in spoken single-syllable words.

Sorting Sticks: Beginning Consonants is a great early activity for learning to distinguish phonemes. The sticks represent 20 beginning sound groupings (all consonants except X) with at least three pictures for every sound. The pictures appear on each end of the stick so they remain visible throughout the sort for support. Students sort the sticks into containers such as *Sorting City*™ (#308166), dry erase boxes that look like city buildings.

Before sorting, expose students to beginning-sound-focused activities including alliteration (using the same beginning sound repeatedly in a poem or sentence), beginning sound books, show-and-tell for things that begin with __, shared reading, songs, and chants. Explore picture sorting with picture cards in columns. This will help ready students to distinguish beginning sounds using *Sorting Sticks*.

Managing the Sorting Sticks

- Visit our website www.reallygoodstuff.com to download Really Good Stuff® Instructional Guides.
- In advance of your demonstration, choose the sorts and store the needed activity in baggies. Use baggies to store sorts at centers as well. See the list on back for included *Sorting Sticks*.

English Language Learners

Non-native English speakers may be confused by consonant sounds that are pronounced differently or are

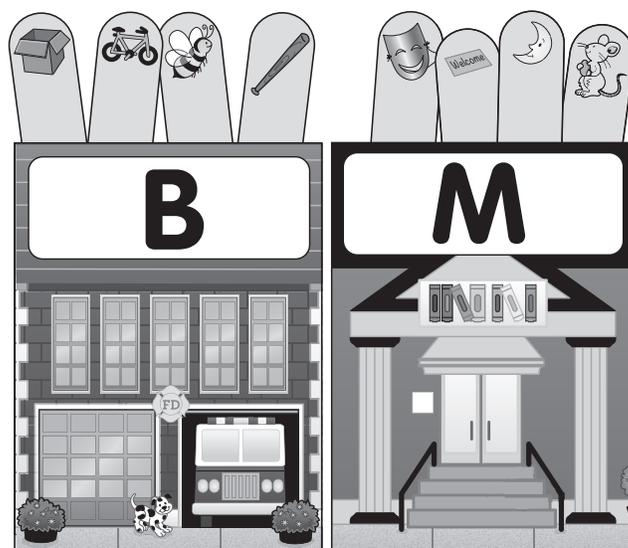
not used in their native languages. Spanish speakers may need extra practice with *g, h, j, k, v, w, and z*.

Modeling Sorting with *Sorting Sticks*

Begin by demonstrating a two-category sort. Contrast sounds that can be elongated for emphasis, as in “mmm” for *m*, or easy sounds to hear, such as /b/. At first, avoid comparing sounds that have the same place of articulation (where the air is pushed through the mouth) such as /t/ and /d/. Remember to provide repeated practice for beginning consonant sounds that students are “using but confusing” in their writing.

Label two boxes with the letters, such as B and M. Ask students to name all the pictures on the *Sorting Sticks* with you. Then pick up a B stick, such as bike, name the picture again, and say, “I have bike. Bike has the /b/ sound. /b/. B. Bike goes in the B category.” Next, choose a stick with an M picture, such as moon, and model sorting the moon stick into the M box.

Pick up another stick and name the picture, such as mask. Ask students, “Does mask begin like /b/ bike or like /m/ moon?” When students produce the correct response, sort the mask stick into the M box. Continue sorting the pictures into the two boxes until all the sticks are sorted. Review the sort together.



Have students mix up the sticks and sort individually or in pairs or small groups. They divide the sticks, then take turns sorting into the boxes. Increase the number of sorting categories as students progress.

Sorting Sticks: Beginning Consonants

Pictures in This Sorting Sticks Set

B	bat	H	hand	N	nap	T	tape
	bee		hat		nest		teeth
	bike		heart		nine		tie
	box		house		nurse		tub
	bus				pen		van
C	can	J	jam	P	pig	V	vase
	cat		jar		pillow		volcano
	cow		jeans		pop		
	cup				question		wagon
D	dad	K	key	Q	quilt	W	worm
	dog		kite		quarter		wig
	duck		kangaroo		rake		yarn
F	fan	L	lamb	R	ring	Y	yellow
	feet		leaf		robe		yo-yo
	fish		leg		rug		
			lick		sad		zebra
G	girl	M	mask	S	six	Z	zipper
	gum		mat		sock		zoo
	goose		moon		soap		
			mouse		sun		