

## Alphabet Arch

Ages 4+

Thank you for your purchase of **Really Good Literacy Center-in-a-Bag™ Alphabet Arch**, a fun, hands-on game that sharpens your students' letter-recognition skills.

### Objective

Students identify the letters of the alphabet.

### Meeting State Standards

This type of practice in matching upper- and lowercase letters helps students meet grade-level expectations and prepare for standardized testing. **Alphabet Arch** can help improve letter recognition and letter-naming skills.

#### This Really Good Stuff® product includes:

- 2 Double-sided Alphabet Arch Mats
- 52 Foam Letters (upper- and lowercase)
- Center Task Card
- This Really Good Stuff® Instructional Guide

Letter recognition and letter naming are essential in developing phonics and phonological-awareness skills. With **Alphabet Arch**, early readers enjoy identifying colorful **Foam Letters**, saying their names, and matching them to corresponding letters on the large **Alphabet Arch Mat**. Through repeated play, students build essential alphabet-fluency skills.

H N Q W Y S L M P V  
B K T R G Z D E I O U



### Managing the Center-in-a-Bag

- Display the *Center Task Card*.
- Copy and file this Activity Guide for future use.
- You may want to separate lower- and uppercase *Letters* into two plastic zippered bags.
- Demonstrate how to tidy the center when the activity is complete.
- Store the center materials in the bag and hang it alongside other *Centers-in-a-Bag*.

### Introducing Alphabet Arch

The early study of letter recognition should be interesting, active learning. **Alphabet Arch** provides a fun setting for students to engage with and manipulate *Foam Letters*,

recognizing distinctive letter features as they name and match those *Letters* to the corresponding **Alphabet Arch Mat**. Two double-sided **Alphabet Arch Mats** allow for individual play or partnership practice for four students. Two types of letter identification allow for skill-level differentiation for emergent readers. One side of the **Alphabet Arch Mat** involves basic matching of upper- and lowercase *Letters*, while the back of the **Mat** has letters missing and offers an exciting challenge in alphabetic sequencing.

### Model the Activity

Begin by modeling the activity, discussing every step with students. Start with one **Alphabet Arch Mat** for practice. Begin modeling with either the complete upper- or lowercase alphabet side of the **Mat**. Show students how to select the corresponding set of upper- or lowercase *Letters* (this is more efficient if they have been separated into plastic zippered bags). Spread out the *Letters* to the side of the **Alphabet Arch Mat**. Demonstrate picking up a *Letter*, correctly saying its name, and then matching it to the corresponding letter on the **Alphabet Arch Mat**.

Continue until all of the *Letters* are placed on the **Mat**.

### Center Task Card

Post this at the literacy center in a visible position. The student or helper can refer to the *Center Task Card* for instructions. Refer to the shaded section at the top of the *Card* for center preparation, including needed materials.

### Alphabet Arch Game

One to two students, or can be played in partnerships

*Object:* Identify letters of the alphabet

*Materials:* Alphabet Arch Mats, Foam Letters

1. Choose uppercase or lowercase **Mat** and *Letters* for play.
2. Place one set of *Letters* next to the **Mat**.
3. Student picks a *Letter*, says its name, finds its match on the **Arch**, and places the *Letter* on the **Arch**.
4. Continue until all the *Letters* are placed on the **Mat**.

#### Extensions:

Flip over the **Alphabet Arch Mat** and have students complete the partial arch.

With eyes closed, student picks up a *Letter* and identifies it. Open eyes to check and then place it on the **Arch Mat**.

Use the uppercase *Letters* for the lowercase **Mat** and vice versa to match uppercase to lowercase *Letters*, developing flexibility in recognizing *Letters*.

Rev. 3: 5/22

All instructional guides can be found online.