

Indicator #8
Phonics

Student associates letters of English alphabet with their sounds.

** ELL/DLL students should be scored on their English proficiency for this indicator **

Research

The second biggest predictor of reading achievement is the ability to recognize small units of sounds called phonemes. As children learn the letters of the alphabet they begin to make connections between the letters they see and the sounds they hear. Phonics instruction is an essential component of literacy instruction because students rely upon their understanding of phonics when decoding unknown words. Phonics instruction teaches the most important and regular letter-to-sound relationships that children use to begin reading. Systematic phonics instruction produces significant benefits for students in Kindergarten through 6th grade who are having difficulty learning to read. Effective phonics instruction also correlates to children's ability to be able to spell words correctly. Developing children's ability to associate letters of the English alphabet with their sounds has a strong impact on that child's ability to begin reading.

Wood, J., & McLemore, B. (2001, December). Critical Components in Early Literacy - Knowledge of the Letters of the Alphabet and Phonics Instruction. *The Florida Reading Quarterly*, 38(2). Retrieved June 05, 2016, from <https://www.unf.edu/uploadedFiles/aa/fe/Woodarticle.pdf>.

Phonics and Word Recognition

1.1.PK.D

Develop beginning phonics and word skills.

The learner will:

- Demonstrate one-to-one letter sound correspondence for 6 – 10 letters

Effective Practices:

- Provide charts and morning messages for children to read independently
- Promote reading the room strategy, such as searching for letters and words in environmental print
- Create learning centers that focus on letters, sounds, words, and creating simple sentences
- Use print and digital-text materials for functional purposes

ACTIVITIES

Activity:

The teacher will set up alphabet around the circle all letters will be represented. The teacher will play the song "Marching Around the Alphabet" by Hap Palmer. The children will march around the alphabet when the song prompts the children to pick up a letter the student will pick up the letter nearest to them and tell the teacher the sound it makes. Adaptation (Tell the teacher the name of the letter)

Activity Prompts:

The song will prompt the children to say the letter name.

Teacher will prompt the children to say the letter sound.

Evidence Collection Strategies:

The teacher will use a checklist for each child with all of the letters listed to determine if the child understands the corresponding sounds.

Home School Connection:

- Send parents the song lyrics and a link to the song.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4eDogM-HmBo>

Activity:

Materials

Worksheet with letter outlines for uppercase and lowercase letters of alphabet in random order, crayons, and pencils

Teacher names letter sound and corresponding color, ex “Find the letter that says /s/ and color it blue”.

Activity Prompts:

Teacher walks around the classroom, asks all students to lift up a certain color crayon (while demonstrating), ex. blue, green, yellow. Teacher checks to make sure all students are holding up the correct colored crayon. Teacher names letter sound, ex, “Find the letter that says /s/ and color it blue”. Give students ample time to color. Teacher completes this process for up to 15 letters or more if necessary, collects papers, and checks for accuracy. Teacher records data on checklist.

Evidence Collection Strategies:

Teacher reviews the papers to note if students correctly colored the letter with the matching color. Teacher uses a checklist to record data.

Home School Connection:

Teachers can:

- Encourage parents to download free apps to develop letter-sound awareness, such as, [ABC Magic 5 Letter Sound Matching](#) - This app will help strengthen the association of each letter with its sound. A picture of an animal (e.g., frog) is displayed on screen beside four various letters (f, u, n, c) and children drag the frog to the correct letter.
- Encourage parents to use educational websites such as abcya.com and starfall.com.

Parents can use magnetic letters or household materials to play letter-sound games with their kids. Example, parent says the letter sound. The parents gets a flour tray, says a letter sound and the child uses their finger to form the letter in the flour tray. Children could also form the letter shape using cheerios, shaving cream or play- doh.

Name _____ Date _____

Indicator #8 KEI

I D g K w q

P J E Z r C

v f h B L M

x S n Y O t

U