



Professional Learning Module
Integrating Learning Throughout the Preschool Day

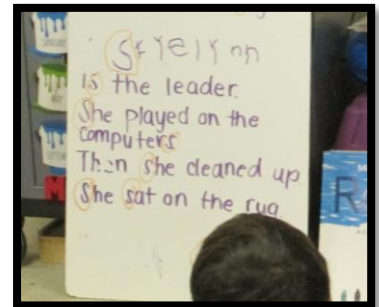
Integrating Alphabet Knowledge

Classroom Snapshot

At the end of the day as Hope checked each of the Learning Center areas, she remembered there were only a few children playing in the ABC center that morning. She added a few new alphabet puzzles knowing how much children love puzzles and it would provide an opportunity for them to talk about letters. She then put out new ABC books and a new game for matching upper- and lower-case letters. She made a note to “advertise” the ABC center during morning meeting the next day to encourage children to explore the new materials.

Hope also checked to see if the children’s name cards were back in place. She noticed that several children were using them in the writing center. Maybe she should just make more sets of name cards and place them around in other centers. She knows that children love to identify the letters in their name and some can even read their names and the names of others. She would also add journals to the writing center so children can create their own stories.

As Hope thought about the next day’s small group lesson, she decided to check the children’s knowledge of the letter “s.” She would move the Morning Message chart over to her small group following the morning meeting and ask the children to identify the letter “s” in the written message. She would use this as a quick assessment to help her identify children who may need extra support.



Integrating Alphabet Knowledge Throughout the Day

- As a daily routine, children practice writing their name as they arrive in the morning or later when they come in from outside centers.
- During small group learning, give children a set of three to five letters and ask them to find a target letter.
- In the alphabet center, print letters in multiple fonts, cut them out, and help children sort them into same letter piles.
- Post multiple cards with children’s names around the classroom. Then throughout the day, ask the children to identify letters in their name.
- Ask children to point to a specific letter within a printed word that is part of a poem, song, sign, book, or other written text during learning centers.
- Ask a child to share the pen during a chart writing lesson.
- Model spelling children’s names aloud using letter sounds instead of letter names, and provide children with opportunities to practice this with their own and each other’s names.
- Hide the letters that have been introduced in a sensory table of sand. Children will identify the letter as they find it.
- Outside, have children make “human” letters.

