



# 6 by 6

## “Alphabet Under Construction”

**Guidelines:** *There may be more than 1 activity or sign under each skill area. Signs are brief, but explain what to do and why it's important.*

### Skill area - Talk, Talk, Talk

1. Activity – Touch and Talk
  - Sign(s): (with toucan graphic)
  - Touch these letters and describe how they feel.  
*Sometimes there are many ways to say the same thing. As you talk to your child, try using some unusual words he or she may not hear very often.*
  - Supplies: Tactile letters, upper and lower case
2. Activity – Measuring and Look
  - Signs:
  - Use the tape measure to measure objects around the library. Help children record the results. Use a magnifying glass to look for letters on walls and shelves. Talk about what you see.  
*The more words children know and hear, the easier it will be for them to learn to read.*

### Skill area – Look for Letters Everywhere

1. Activity – K is kinked.
  - Sign(s): (with peacock graphic)
  - Bend and connect these fuzzy sticks to make letters.  
Can you make the first letter of your name?  
*Looking for letters in unexpected places helps build 'letter awareness'.*
  - Supplies: Pipe Cleaners
2. Activity – Letter Rubbings
  - Sign:
  - Place a piece of paper over a random letter. What letter emerges as you rub the long side of a crayon over the paper?  
*Repeated experiences playing with letters is a good way to reinforce how they look.*

- Supplies: Tactile letters; Paper; Crayons

### Skill Area – **Notice Print All Around You**

1. Activity – Name Game.
  - Sign(s): (with kangaroo graphic)
  - Find the page that has the first letter of your name on it. Use a marker to write your name on that paper.  
*Looking for letters and words in the environment helps children learn that printed text is important.*
  - Supplies: Large letters A-Z on laminated card stock held together with books rings; washable crayons and/or water-based markers.
  - Supplies
  - Skill Area – **Tell Stories About Everything**

1. Matching letter sounds
  - Signs: (with turtle graphic)
  - Hanging hardware  
Match the first letter of the pictured tool with the magnetic clip.  
This makes looking for letters fun and also helps develop the fine motor skills necessary for holding a pencil and turning pages.
  - As you do this activity ask questions like:  
*What do you think that tool does?*  
*How would you use it?*  
*What do people make with these tools?*  
*What would you make with these tools?*  
*Have you ever seen a tool like that? Where was it?*
  - Supplies:
    - Magnetic letter clips
    - Pictures of paint, saw, ruler, hammer, etc.
2. Activity – Tower Going Up
  - Signs: Can you put these pictures of the Eiffel Tower construction in order?  
*Sequencing photographs and objects helps kids recognize beginning, middle and end.*  
*This helps with comprehension.*

### Skill Area - Take **Time to Rhyme, Sing & Play Word Games**

1. Activity – Button, Zip, Snap
  - Signs(s): (with goat graphic)
  - Listen to the beginning sounds of these words.
  - What happens to *Button* if you leave off the /b/ sound and replace it with an /z/ sound? Take the “sn” off of Snap and add a “l” sound...what word do you get?  
*Being able to hear and manipulate the smaller sounds in words is an important part of learning to read. Most children who have difficulty reading are having trouble with this ability.*
  - Supplies:
    - 3 Dressing frames

### Overall skill area – **Have Fun With Books**

1. Activity – Make-A-Letter-Wikki Stix Alphabet Cards
  - Signs: (monkey)  
Look at the poster and try to make a letter with your body.  
*Developing fine motor skills helps prepare your child for skills like following words on a page and holding a pencil.*
2. Activity – Gears in motion
  - Signs: Look for and follow the shapes and patterns.  
*Recognizing shapes helps children learn to recognize letters. Find fun ways to help your child learn the alphabet.*
  - Supplies: set of gears



## “Alphabet Under Construction”

Early Literacy Kit contents

### Sent

### Returned

___ Tactile letters – Lower case for <b>Letter Rubbings</b>	___
___ Starter set of chubby crayons and paper for <b>Letter Rubbings</b>	___
___ <b>Measure and Look</b> Center includes:	
___ One BIG TAPE MEASURE	
___ 5 Cloth measuring tapes	___
___ Alphabet letters from the book to tape up around the library	___
___ 3 Magnifying glasses	___
___ 1 Child clipboard	___
___ 3 Dressing frames; <b>Button, Zip, Snap</b>	___
___ <b>Name Game</b> includes	
___ 2 Sets of alphabet letters on laminated card stock with book rings;	___
___ Set of washable markers	___
___ Magnetic Alphabet Clips – 10 Clips	___
___ Starter set of Pipe Cleaners for <b>K is Kinked</b>	___
___ Set of Turn and Learn Magnetic Gears	___
___ 2 Paperback copies of “ <b>Alphabet Under Construction</b> ” (Library Use Only)	___
___ Set of <b>Tower Going Up</b> pictures	___
___ 1 Large knob puzzle	___
___ Signs ( for helpful hints on activities)	___
___ 2 Hardback copies of “ <b>Alphabet Under Construction</b> ”	___

What you'll need to provide  
Replacement paper and crayons for rubbings  
Replacement pipe cleaners  
Magnetic tape (if you want to use the Tower Going Up on magnet board)  
Containers

