



Literacy Grab & Go Preschool (3 - 4-year-olds)

Activity Title: Sidewalk Chalk Letter-Sound Play

Domain: Literacy

Activity Purpose: Learning through play outside is always a good idea. Get your child moving while they are getting some practice with letter sounds.

Rationale

Letter-sound correspondence, or the relationship of the letters in the alphabet to the sounds they make is a foundational step in children's literacy and reading development. In order to try to read or sound out words, children must first recognize the letters in the word and know the sounds that go with each of the letters.

Materials: sidewalk chalk

Description of Activity:

1. Draw 5-10 circles with a different letter in each circle.
2. Tell your child you are going to say a sound and you want them to run to the circle that has the letter that matches that sound.
3. Start with the letters in your child's name and continue to add more letters.
 - For example, you might say, "Run to the letter that makes the sound /t/."

Lagniappe: This game is perfect for outdoor play.

Focus on letter identification along with sound. Additionally, since most three-year-olds are perfecting how they draw circles, have them circle the letter-sound you call out. For example, you might say, "Run and circle the letter T, that makes the /tttt/ sound." Begin with the letters in your child's first and last name and work your way up to your child being able to name and identify 10 of the 52 upper- and lower-case letters of the alphabet.