

Mini-lesson plan

Alphabet A-Z (uppercase)

General:

Level:	1 & 2: Beginners and Early starters (after doing all lowercase letters)
Time:	10-15 minutes
Objectives:	Identify and recognize 5 uppercase letters per mini-lesson

You will need to download:

Flashcards:	Alphabet flashcards A-Z (uppercase) – <i>have the lowercase letter printed on one side of the flashcard and the corresponding image on the other side</i>
Printables:	Printing sheet for the 5 letters practiced
Songs:	The ABC song

These can be downloaded at <https://www.eslkidstuff.com/esl-kids-lesson-plans.html>

You will also need:

- Blackboard / Whiteboard with chalk / markers
- CD player / computer or something to play the song on

Notes:

Use this mini-lesson within your main lesson for alphabet practice – teach 5 letters each lesson. **Make sure your students have studied the lowercase alphabet letters mini-lessons before doing the uppercase letters.**

We strongly advise NOT dedicating a full lesson to the alphabet – we suggest including a 10-15-minute section each lesson for teaching and reviewing the alphabet. The full alphabet (lowercase first, then uppercase) should be taught over a series of lessons and reviewed each lesson. The number of letters you teach each lesson depends on the ability and age of your students.

We suggest teaching 5 uppercase letters per lesson for 5-year-olds and older, once the lowercase letters have been learned.

Lesson Overview:

New Learning and Practice:

1. Sing "The ABC Song"
2. Review the letters learned in previous lessons (lesson 2 "F G H I J" onwards)
3. Do "Match the letters" exercise with 5 new letters
4. Introduce the 5 new letters with flashcards
5. Review all letters with games
6. Do a letter practice worksheet

Lesson Procedure:

New Learning and Practice:

1. Sing "The ABC Song"

Start this section of the lesson with the ABC song to indicate that it's alphabet time. If possible, have the letters of the alphabet stuck around the walls of your classroom, high enough so your students can't take them down, and point at each letter as it is sung. If not, it's not a problem, sing along with the song and have fun.

Lyrics for "The ABC Song"

<p>Verse 1: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W and X Y Z</p> <p><i>I can sing my ABCs, Won't you sing along with me?</i></p>	<p>Verse 2: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W and X Y Z</p> <p><i>I can sing my ABCs, Won't you sing along with me?</i></p>
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Alternatively, play the song video and have everyone sing along with the performer.

2. Review the letters learned in previous lessons (lesson 2 “F G H I J” onwards)

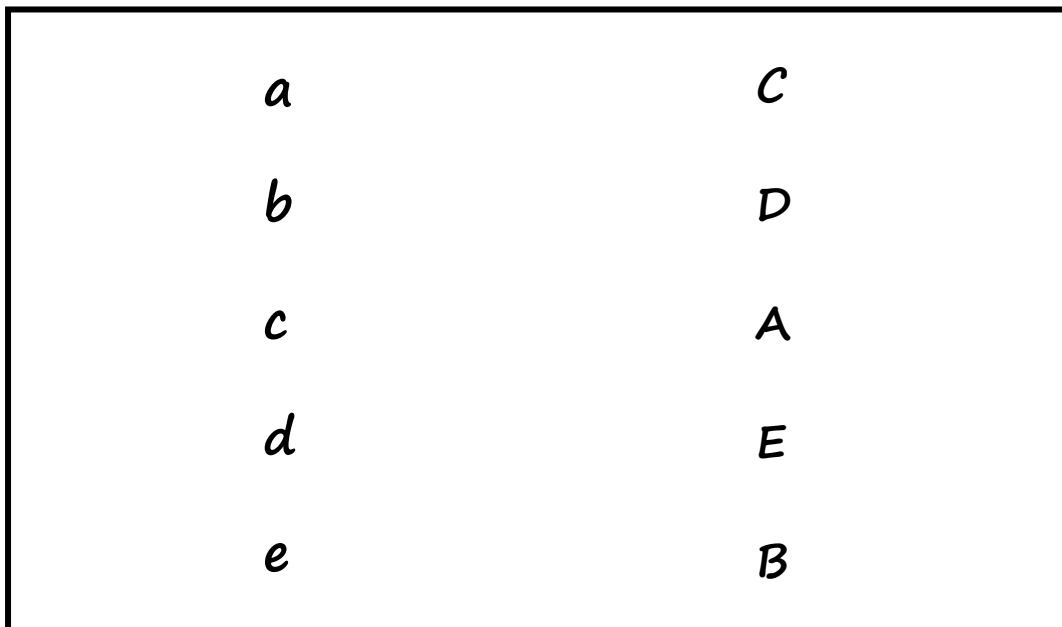
Use your flashcards to quickly run through the letters learned in previous lessons, in alphabetical order. This should be a quick run through, eliciting each letter, sound and picture:

- 1) Hold up the first letter and ask, “What’s this?” – elicit the letter (e.g. “A”)
- 2) Then ask, “Is for?” – elicit the phonetic sound (e.g. “ah”)
- 3) Finally, turn over the flashcard showing the picture and ask again, “Is for?” – elicit the word (e.g. “Apple”)
- 4) Continue with the rest of the letter flashcards

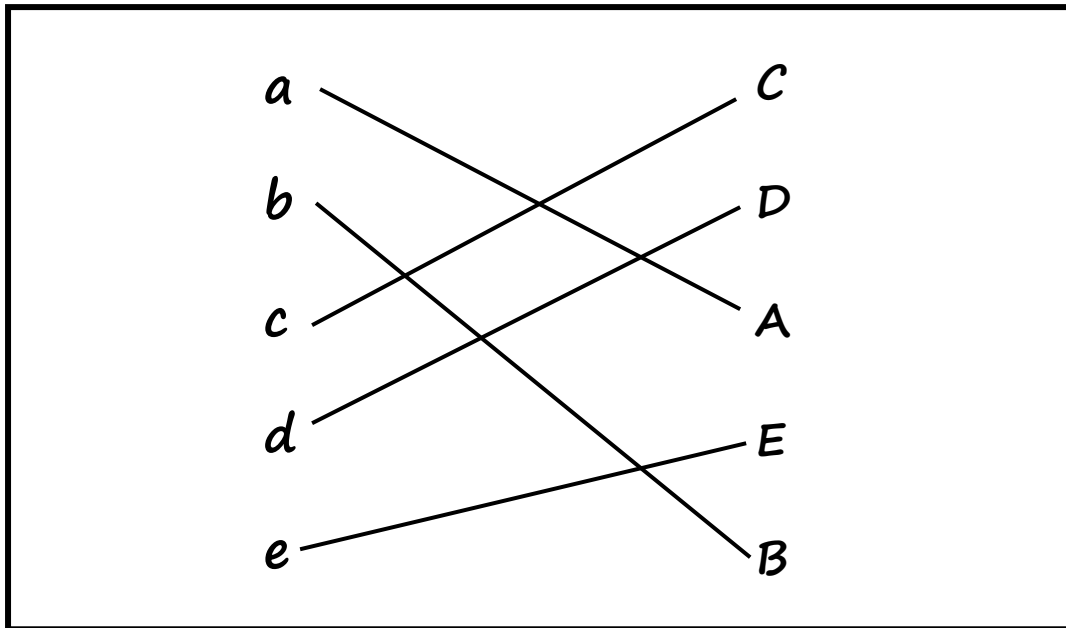
3. Do “Match the letters” exercise with 5 new letters

Your students have already studied the lowercase letters of the alphabet, so they will find matching the uppercase letters quite easy – you’ll be surprised!

On your board, down the left-side write the 5 new letters in lowercase in alphabetical order (see image below). Then on the right-side, write the same letters in uppercase, but mix them up:



Then ask your students to match them up – first ask one student to come to the board and draw a line connecting the first two letters (a to A). Then get other students to come up and do the same until all the letters have been matched. Your finished board will look like this:



4. Introduce the 5 new letters with flashcards

For the new letters, follow this basic procedure. This section of the lesson should be fast paced and fun.

- 1) Have everyone gather around you so they are close – have them sit on the floor with you, if possible. You want everyone to be close enough, so you can easily pass cards back and forth with them.
- 2) Hold up an alphabet uppercase letter flashcard so all students can see it.
- 3) Elicit the letter and chorus it 2 to 3 times. Then ask each student individually to say the letter.
- 4) Elicit the sound of the letter (e.g. T: "A is for ?" Ss: "ah").
- 5) Provide an example of an object that begins with the letter. Double-sided flashcards with the letter on one side and a picture on the other are great for this. (e.g. "What's this?" (elicit "A"). "And A is for...?" (elicit "ah"). "And 'ah' is for ... (turning the card over) "Apple!"

Therefore, a typical interaction for a single uppercase letter (covering points 2-5 above) would be as follows:

Teacher: (showing a flashcard of the letter A) "What's this?"

Students: "A"

T: Good! Repeat "A"

Ss: "A"
T: "A"
Ss: "A"
T: "A is for?"
Ss: "ah"
T: "Good! And ah is for (turning the card over)?"
Ss: "Apple"
T: "Good! What's this?" (showing "B")
etc.

As you teach each letter, use a combination of the activities in 4 below to practice and reinforce each letter.

5. Review all letters with games

When you have finished teaching the 5 new letters you can play a series of games to reinforce these letters, mixed in with the letters your students have learned in previous lessons. Here are some popular games, rotate them so you have new games each week:

- **Slow motion:** Hold the pack of alphabet flashcards with the letters facing towards yourself. The first letter card should be turned around, so the letter is facing the students but is hidden as it is behind the pack. Slowly pull the flashcard up inch by inch so the students can only see part of the letter. As the letter is slowly revealed, students try to guess what it is. The first student to guess correctly keeps the card (for 1 point). *Variation: to make it a little more difficult turn each letter flashcard upside down.*
- **Letter touch:** Place the alphabet letter cards, face-up, on the floor. Students sit in a circle around the cards. Tell everyone to hold up their hands. The teacher then says a letter and the students must race to touch that letter first. The person who touches the letter first picks up the card and keeps it. At the end of the game, the student with the most letter cards is the winner.
- **Vanishing Alphabet Flashcards:** place the flashcard letters in front of your students, in the correct order. Tell everyone to close their eyes. Take away one of the flashcards and then tell your students to open their eyes again. The first student to shout out the missing letter can keep that flashcard. At the end of the game, the student with the most letter cards is the winner. *Variation: to make it a little more difficult, lay the letter flashcards out in random order.*
- **Hold it up:** Give out all the letter flashcards to students. Students can have more than one letter. Say a letter and the student holding that card must hold it up in the air. *Variation: say different actions as well, which the student holding the card must*

do, e.g. "The student with card "D", jump 5 times!".

- **Find It:** Hold up a letter flashcard and the students search around the room for an object beginning with that letter. (e.g. A - arm, B - book, C - clock).

6. Do a letter practice worksheet

Give out a printing worksheet to each student to practice the new letters (download from our website before class). As students are doing the worksheets, circulate and ask individual students questions about the letters (what is this letter? "A", What sound is it? "ah". And what is the picture? "an Apple".)

Alternatively, set the printing sheet for homework and check in the next lesson.



A note on alphabet printing

Alphabet printing exercises are an important first step in learning to write. Printing exercises don't have to be boring - they can be really fun! They should also help students to internalize the letters.

- Before the students begin printing, model each letter print showing the directions of the letter strokes.
- When printing letters, get students to call out each letter as they write it.
- If writing lower and uppercase have your students say "big 'A', small 'a'" as they write.
- Let students write letter sets in different colors and allow students to draw little pictures on their printing sheets.
- Continuously monitor the students while they print, helping with letter strokes, spaces between each letter, letter size, etc. Also, while monitoring, point to letters the students have already printed and ask them what they are.
- Encourage students to circle their best printing effort for each letter set.
- Finish by holding up each student's sheet, asking questions ("what is this letter?") pointing out any mistakes, etc., but above all give lots of praise and encouragement!

- All flashcards, worksheets, craft sheets, readers and songs used in this lesson plan can be downloaded at eslkidstuff.com/esl-kids-lesson-plans.html

- More free Lesson Plans are available at [eslkidstuff.com/esl-kids-lesson-plans.html](https://www.eslkidstuff.com/esl-kids-lesson-plans.html)

Can you suggest any additions to this lesson plan? If you know of any great games, activities, teaching points, links to other sites or any other ideas that can be added to this lesson plan, please email us: <https://www.eslkidstuff.com/contact.htm>

Please report any mistakes at <https://www.eslkidstuff.com/contact.htm>

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