

Fun with the Bb Sound



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Materials Needed

Buttons, bottle, bib, box, bag, backpack, basket, ball, banana, beads, bowl; pencil or marker, lineless paper, glue, cardboard, index cards.

Teaching the/b/ Sound

1. Introduce the /b/ sound using a collection of buttons of different sizes and shapes. Ask the child, "What are these?" He will probably answer, "Buttons." Discuss the fact that they are all of different sizes and shapes. Then say, "Buttons begin the letter *b*. We are going to learn the /b/ sound today." Then, write capital *B* and lower case *b* on a sheet of paper so that the child can associate the letter with its name. Say to the child, "This is the letter *b*." Then, help him make the letter *b* using actual buttons (or rice or dried beans as a substitute) and gluing them onto cardboard in the shape of a *b*. Then have the child to trace over the letter with his fingers as he says the letter name. This method involves all the learning modalities: visual, auditory, tactile, and kinesthetic.
2. Next, present other objects that begin with the /b/ sound such as ball, bat, banana, biscuit, bowl, bib and balloon, having the child to repeat the name of each object after you, and watching your mouth as you make the sound.

3. Then, have the child think of other words which begin with that sound. You may have to help the child by giving him clues (for example, “What is your baby brother’s name?” Answer: “Bobby”) or making it like a riddle game (for example, “What can you chew and blow bubbles with?” Answer: “Bubble gum”). Such activities help develop phonemic awareness which is critical in learning phonics.
4. Next, you could write the name of each object on an index card and place the card under the appropriate object so that the child can associate the word with the object. This teaches word recognition and vocabulary as well.
5. To reinforce the /b/ sound in the words above, have the child point to the letter in each word that begins like *buttons*. Then you should ask the child again what that letter is.
6. To assess whether the child can distinguish the /b/ sound from other beginning consonant sounds, play a game where you have several different objects on a table or on the floor (you can pretend that you are going on a trip or going shopping), and the child can only select objects that begin with the /b/ sound to place in his backpack, bag or box.

Lesson Extension Activities (focusing in the /b/ sound) for Art, Math, Science, P. E. , Language and Literacy

Math

Count and sort the buttons.

Science

Plant bean sprouts.

Catch a butterfly.

Art

Make a basket.

String beads.

Physical Education (P.E.)

Play bouncing the ball.

Language and Literacy

Read a story about animal babies.

