

ACTIVITY 1 — Match Game

(Routines: 3, 8, 9, 13)

MATERIALS

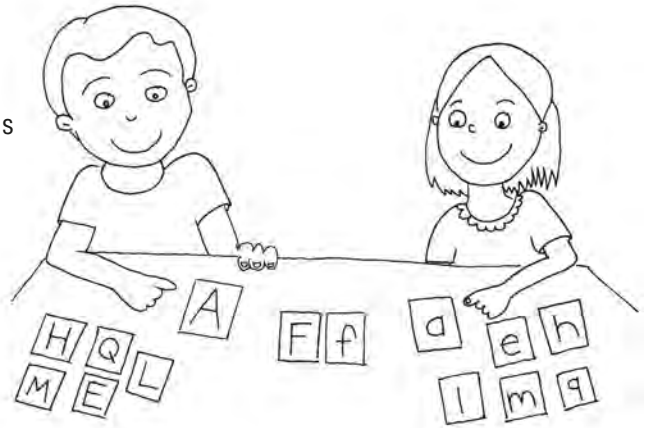
- Teacher or Student Letter Cards or Picture Cards and Key Word Cards
- Blackline Master 2 (optional)

PREPARATION

- Gather pairs of Picture Cards with objects whose names rhyme for each set of partners. (Or gather pairs of Letter Cards with matching uppercase and lowercase letters.) Judge the optimal number of cards, based on students' skill levels.
- If students need practice with specific letters, make copies of Blackline Master 2, write in those letters, and cut out the cards.

METHOD

1. Give each partner half of the card matches.
2. Have partners search their cards together to find matches.
3. As students discover matches, ask them to point to the pairs and say their names.



ACTIVITY 2 — Concentration

(Routines: 3, 8, 9, 13, 15, 17, 18)

MATERIALS

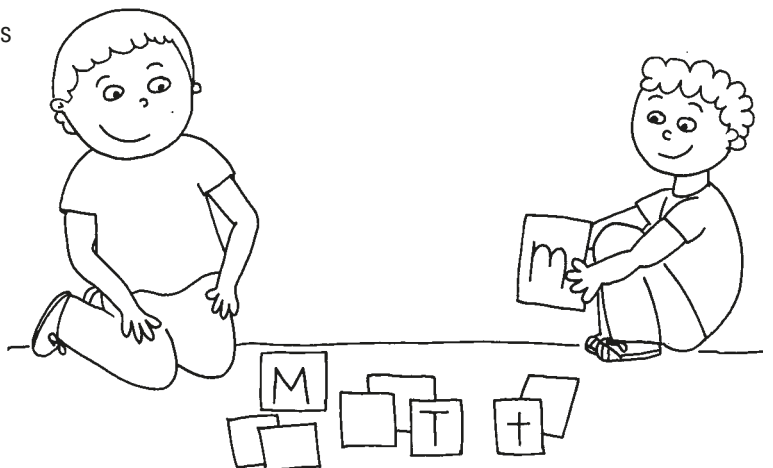
- Teacher or Student Letter Cards
- Blackline Master 2 (optional)

PREPARATION

- Gather cards with matching uppercase and lowercase letters. (Add cards as students become more proficient.)
- If students need practice with specific letters, make copies of Blackline Master 2, write in those letters, and cut out the cards.

METHOD

1. Have partners shuffle the cards and place them face down.
2. Students take turns turning over two cards each time, trying to match an uppercase letter and lowercase letter.
3. If they don't make a match, they put the cards back in the same position.
4. If they make a match, they keep the pair of cards.



ACTIVITY 3 — Letter Hunts

(Routines: 8, 9)

MATERIALS

- Magazines or newspaper circulars

PREPARATION

- Gather magazines or circulars.
- Be sure that featured letters appear in the material.

METHOD

1. Have students look for and circle specific letters.
2. You may want students to circle or write words they find that begin with a specific letter.



ACTIVITY 4 — Word Hunts/Rhyme Hunts

(Routine: 3)

MATERIALS

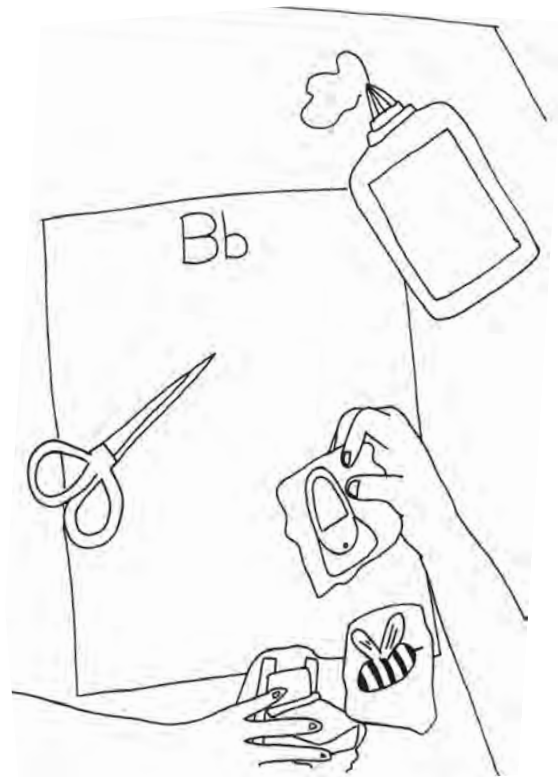
- Magazines or newspaper circulars
- Construction paper
- Paste
- Scissors

PREPARATION

- Gather magazines or circulars.
- Be sure that appropriate pictures appear in the material.
- If students hunt for objects that begin with a specific letter, write that letter at the top of a sheet of paper for each student. If they hunt for objects that rhyme, cut out a picture of an object whose name rhymes with the hunted words and paste it at the top of the paper.

METHOD

1. Have students search for pictures of objects that begin with a specific letter or have sounds that rhyme.
2. Ask them to cut out and paste magazine pictures on the prepared paper.
3. Some students may be able to write the names of the pictures.



ACTIVITY 5 — Walk the Room

(Routines: 3, 11, 12, 13)

MATERIALS

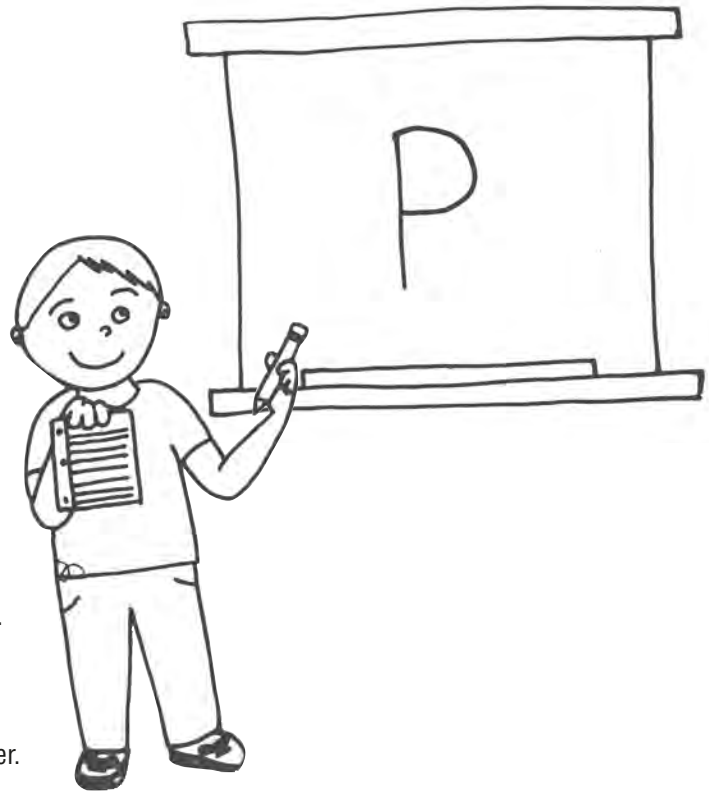
- Classroom objects
- Blackline Master 3 (optional)

PREPARATION

- For students who need assistance, draw letters and simple pictures on Blackline Master 3.

METHOD

1. Ask students to walk around the room, searching for objects that begin with a specific letter or have sounds that rhyme. (You may want to write the letter on the board.)
2. When they find an object, have them bring it to you and say its name.
3. Students who use the blackline master can circle the pictures of things they find.
4. Some students may be able to write the names of the objects on paper.



ACTIVITY 6 — Alphabet Duet

(Routine: 10)

MATERIALS

- Teacher Alphabet Song Game Boards
- Teacher Letter Cards A to Z

METHOD

1. Have partners take turns placing one letter at a time in sequence on an Alphabet Board and singing the name of the letter.
2. When all letters are in the correct positions, ask them to sing the alphabet song together as they point to each letter.
3. After students practice with the uppercase and lowercase boards, have them practice with the blank Alphabet Board.



ACTIVITY 7 — Create a Letter

(Routines: 8, 9, 11, 12, 13)

MATERIALS

- Colored construction paper or paper plates
- Assorted objects, such as macaroni, cotton balls, buttons
- Paste

METHOD

1. Ask students to draw a specific large letter on construction paper or paper plates.
2. Have them paste bits of colored paper or common objects on the paper to follow the lines of the letters.
3. Variation: Students can paste pictures of items that begin with the letter around the large letter.



ACTIVITY 8 — Egg Letter Toss

(Routines: 8, 9, 11, 12, 13)

MATERIALS

- Egg carton
- Button or bean

PREPARATION

- Write a letter in each pocket of the egg carton.

METHOD

1. Students take turns putting a button or bean in the egg carton.
2. Have them tightly close the carton and shake it.
3. They carefully open the carton and name the letter in the pocket where the object landed.
4. Variation: After students name the letter, they say the sound and a word that starts with that sound.



ACTIVITY 9 — Rainbow Letters/Rainbow Sounds

(Routines: 8, 9, 11, 12, 13)

MATERIALS

- Crayons
- Paper

PREPARATION

- Write a letter (uppercase or lowercase in large print) on paper with a yellow crayon.

METHOD

1. Have students trace the letter with crayons of many colors.
2. Ask them to name the letter and/or sound as they write.



ACTIVITY 10 — What Letter Am I?

(Routines: 11, 12, 13)

MATERIALS

- Teacher or Student Letter Cards
- Teacher or Student Picture Cards and Key Word Cards (optional)

PREPARATION

- For each set of partners, gather Letter Cards that students can use to practice specific letters.

METHOD

1. Have partners place a stack of Letter Cards face down.
2. One partner takes a card from the stack but hides it from the other.
3. That student says words that begin with that letter until the partner names the letter.
4. Ask partners to take turns until they've worked through all of the cards.
5. Variation: Students use Picture Cards and Key Word Cards instead of Letter Cards.



ACTIVITY 11 — All Aboard!

(Routines: 5, 11, 12, 13, 14)

MATERIALS

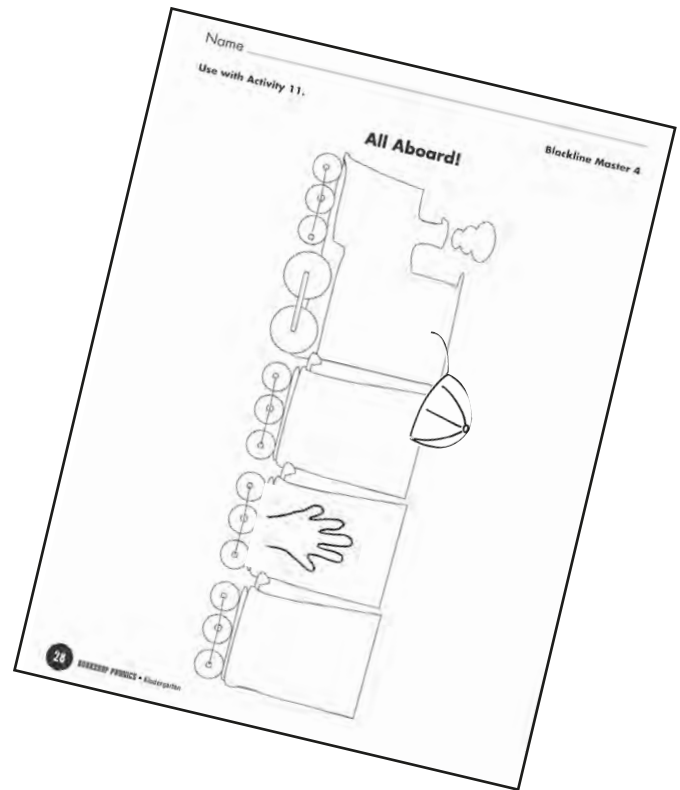
- Blackline Master 4

PREPARATION

- Make copies of Blackline Master 4.
- Write a letter in the train engine.

METHOD

1. Ask students to draw pictures in the other train cars showing objects that start with the letter in the engine.
2. Students may label their drawings.



ACTIVITY 12 — Special Delivery

(Routine: 12)

MATERIALS

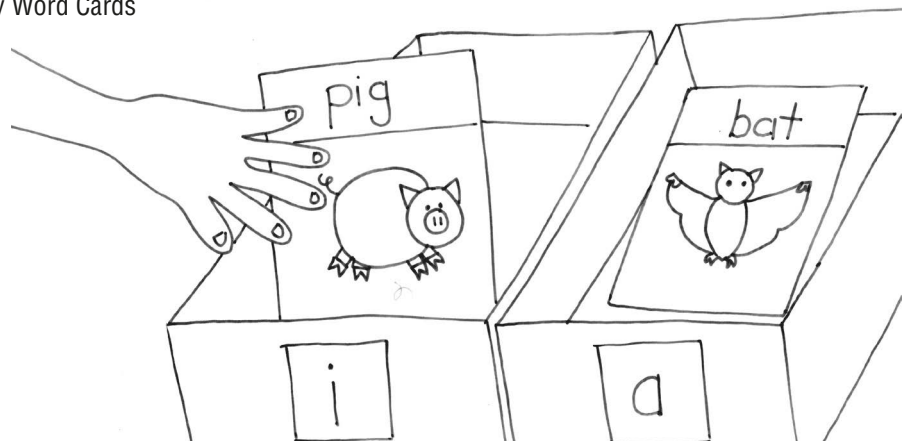
- Small boxes or containers
- Student Picture Cards or Key Word Cards

PREPARATION

- Label each box with a lowercase short vowel to create “mailboxes.”
- Gather Picture Cards or Key Word Cards that show objects with short vowel sounds.

METHOD

1. Ask students to “deliver” Picture Cards or Key Word Cards to each correct mailbox.
2. This activity can begin as soon as students know the sounds for two short vowels. As students learn additional vowel sounds, add mailboxes.



ACTIVITY 13 — Create and Write

(Routines: 15, 17, 18)

MATERIALS

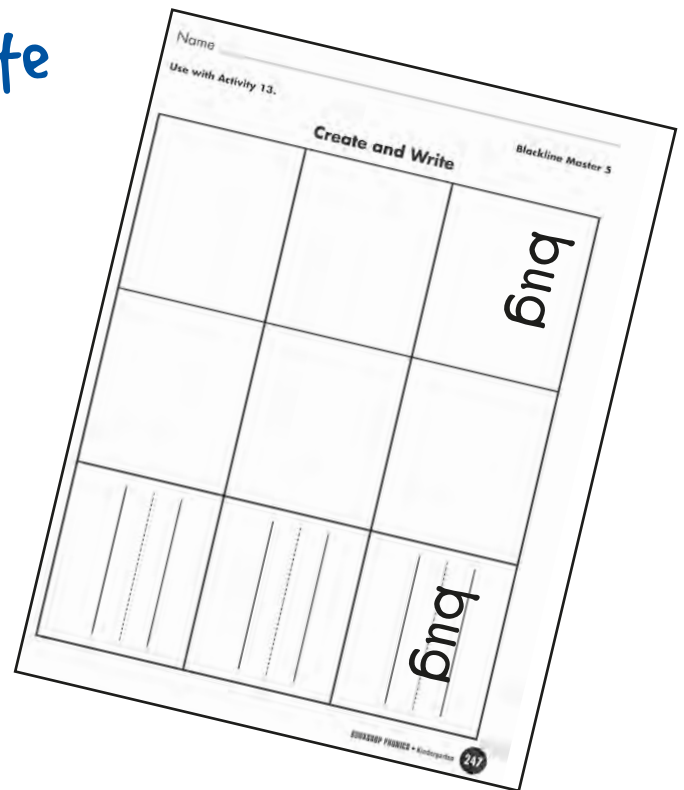
- Blackline Master 5
- Art supplies

PREPARATION

- Make copies of Blackline Master 5.
- In each space in the first column, write a word students can read.

METHOD

1. Ask students to read the word.
2. In the second column, have them draw a picture that shows the word.
3. In the third column, ask them to write the word on the manuscript lines.



ACTIVITY 14 — Build Sentences

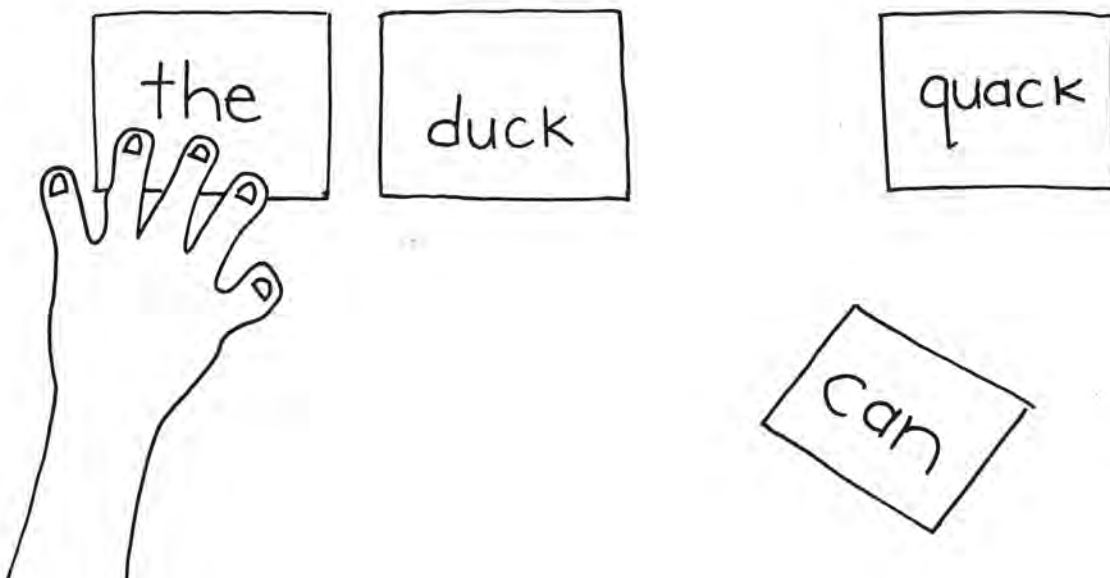
(Routines: 16, 19)

MATERIALS

- Teacher or Student Look and Say Word Cards or Sound and Say Word Cards
- Teacher or Student Letter Cards

METHOD

1. Have students build sentences, using the cards.
2. Variation: Have students write their sentences on paper.



ACTIVITY 15 — Keyboard

(Routines: 11, 12, 15, 16)

MATERIALS

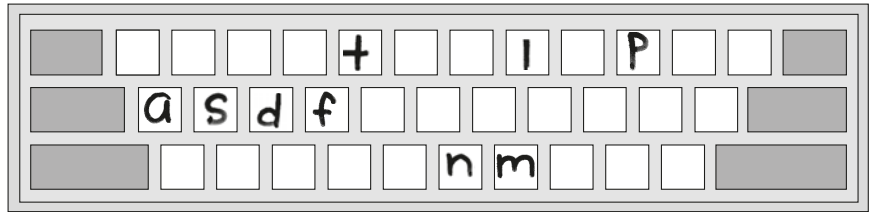
- Blackline Master 6

PREPARATION

- Write letters on some of the keys.
(To help students build keyboard skills, write the letters on the keys on which they actually appear.)
- Make copies of Blackline Master 6.

METHOD

1. Have students make as many words as they can with the letters shown and write them below the picture of the keyboard.
2. Variation: Students draw pictures to match the words or write a sentence that includes a word they wrote.



fan pin pan mat

ACTIVITY 16 — Buddy Reading

(Routines: 9, 15, 18, 20)

MATERIALS

- Partner Practice pages with sentences or stories
- Books students can read independently

METHOD

- Partners take turns reading aloud to each other.



ACTIVITY 17 — My Letter Book

(Routines: 8, 9)

MATERIALS

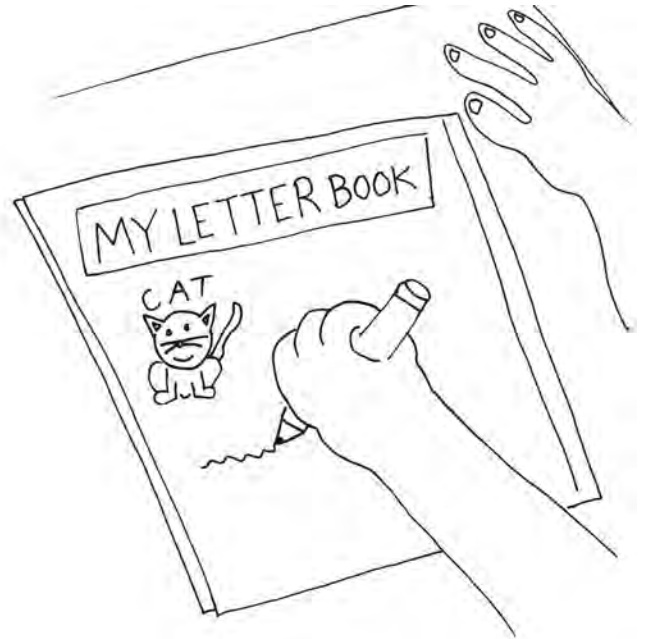
- Blackline Master 7
- Magazines or newspapers
- Yarn or simple binder
- Paste
- Scissors

PREPARATION

- Make copies of Blackline Master 7.
- In the top left space of the Blackline Master, write an uppercase or lowercase letter.
- Punch holes in the paper and use yarn or a binder to create My Letter Book for each student.
- Write the title on a cover.

METHOD

1. Have students practice writing the letter in the boxes below the letter you wrote.
2. Ask them to cut out examples of the letter from magazines or newspapers and paste them in the boxes to the right.
3. Variation: After students learn the sound of the letter, they may cut out and paste in pictures of words that begin with the letter.
4. Students can decorate the cover of the book.
5. Continue to add pages to the books as students learn new letters.



ACTIVITY 18 — My Word Book

(Routines: 15, 16, 17, 18)

MATERIALS

- Blackline Master 8
- Yarn or simple binder

PREPARATION

- Make copies of Blackline Master 8.
- In the top left space of the Blackline Master, write an uppercase or lowercase letter.
- Punch holes in the paper and use yarn or a binder to create a My Word Book for each student.
- Add a cover. Write the title on the cover.

METHOD

1. Have students write words that start with the letter's sound on the manuscript lines.
2. Ask them to read their words aloud to partners.
3. Students can decorate the cover of the book.
4. Continue to add pages to the books as students learn new sounds.



ACTIVITY 19 — Bag of Letters

(Routines: 15, 16)

MATERIALS

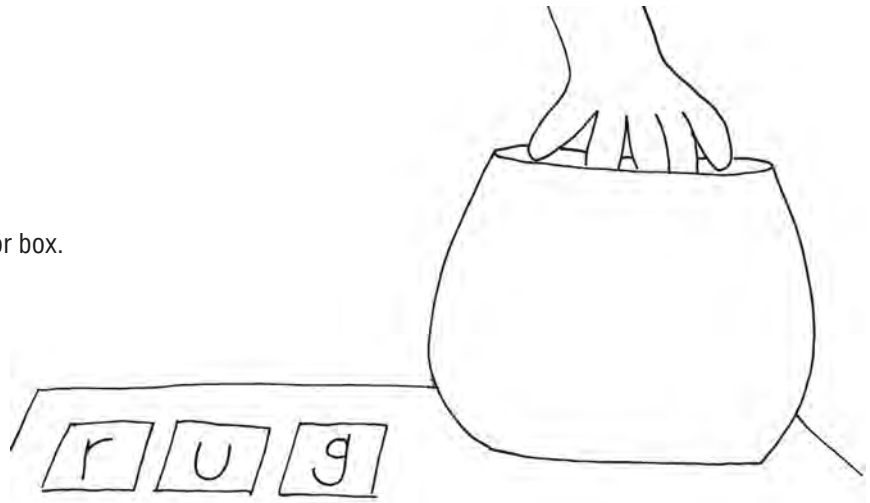
- Teacher or Student Letter Cards
- Teacher or Student Picture Cards (optional)
- Paper bag, envelope, or small box

PREPARATION

- Place selected letters in a paper bag, envelope, or box.

METHOD

1. Have students draw cards from the bag and use them to make words. (They may work individually or in pairs.)
2. Partners should take turns making words and reading them aloud to each other.



ACTIVITY 20 — Label the Picture

(Routines: 14, 19)

MATERIALS

- Blackline Master 1
- Magazines or newspapers (optional)
- Art supplies

PREPARATION

- Make copies of Blackline Master 1

METHOD

1. In the top space of Blackline Master 1, have students draw a picture of a person, place, or thing.
2. Ask them to write words on the lines below that tell about their picture. (They may use regular or invented spelling.)
3. Variation: Students cut out and paste a picture from a magazine or newspaper.