

# Playing with Letters and Sounds

**Parent Strategies:** Have fun learning letters with your child by naming and finding letters in his or her name and paying attention to words in the environment.

## WHAT



### Point Out Letters and Words in the Environment

## WHY

Recognizing letters and their sounds is more than being able to sing the alphabet. It includes naming letters and the sounds each makes. Children who have lots of opportunities to play and experience letters in different ways will be better prepared for reading.

## HOW

Bring attention to familiar letters and words all around. Look for letters your child recognizes on signs and bill boards. Play "I Spy Letters" at the grocery store or while waiting for an appointment.



## WHAT



### Find the Special Letters in Your Child's Name

## WHY

Before children learn to read they become interested in letters and words they see often. Young children are most interested in words that have meaning to them, such as his or her name, family names, toys, favorite foods or signs in their environment.

## HOW

Write your child's name in big letters and display it in your home. Point out the important letters in his or her name when you see them in books or during your everyday activities. Make letters with sticks, straws, rocks, beans, or items you find around your environment.

