



Four Aspects of Alphabetic Knowledge

Alphabetic knowledge involves children naming the letters of the alphabet and recognizing the letter symbols (both upper and lower case) in print. It also includes children sounding out the letters of the alphabet (e.g., the short vowel sounds, the consonant sounds). Being able to name the letters of the alphabet quickly and correctly helps children in learning to read and write words.

There are four components of letter knowledge (Bradley & Jones, 2007) that children should develop:

Letter-shape knowledge

Ability to distinguish letters based on visual features (i.e., lines, curves, orientation)

Letter-name knowledge

Understanding that a letter is a symbol and that it has both an upper case and lower case form

Letter-sound knowledge

Understanding that letters represent sounds



Scan this QR code to hear the 44 sounds of the letters (BBC Learning English, 2023).

Letter-writing knowledge

Ability to write letters of the alphabet