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Ideas for Letter Sound Cards

FLASHCARDS:

See how many letters, numbers, or words your child can recognize!

THE "BRING-ME" GAME:

Invite your child to lay out the cards. Ask them to bring you different letters, numbers, or words.

GO FISH:

Using 2 sets of cards (start with just a few letters):

Try to collect pairs of the same word or letter!

Deal the cards until every player has five cards. Place the rest of the cards in a pile. Players will draw from this pile.

Each player asks anyone they want if they have a certain card. For example, player 1 asks player 3, "Do you have any 'p's'?" If that player has any, he must give them to the player who asked. If he does not have the card, he says "Go Fish!" and the asking player must draw a card from the pile.

If you make a match, keep the cards. The first player to run out of cards wins.

CONCENTRATION:

Using 2 sets of cards (start with just a few letters):

Place all of the cards face down.

One player turns up two cards; if they match, they are collected by the player. If they don't match, the cards are flipped over and it's the next player's turn.

The player with the most matching sets of cards at the end of the game wins.

Letter Sound Labeling Around the House

Write a letter (e.g., "s") on a card and invite your child place it next to objects around the house that start with that sound. For example, "s" could go next to a spoon, sofa, scissors, or salad dressing. As you go around, encourage your child to say the sound and the corresponding word aloud. This is a great way to connect letter sounds with real-life objects. You can gradually add more sounds as your child progresses.

WRITING:

Invite the child to copy the letters onto a paper or trace in a box of sand or rice. Children can also trace letters in shaving cream or form them out of play dough. Use different writing utensils and paper to make it fun!

***Note:** As children develop phonemic and phonological awareness, it's important not to focus too heavily on spelling at this stage. For example, if you're working with the letter "s" and your child says "celery starts with /ssss/," try not to correct them. While spelling and understanding variations in phonemes are important, these skills come much later in the language development process. At this stage, the focus should be on building their awareness of sounds and letters, rather than on perfect spelling or phonetic accuracy.