



Strong Start to reading™
"Making a difference in the life of a child"



What you need:

Playdough - homemade (see recipe below) **or** store bought

Useful to have: Books, magazines, cereal boxes, etc.

Playing the Game:




Learning Connections:

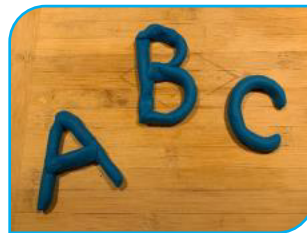
This activity provides opportunities to

- develop a knowledge of the letters of the alphabet including the sounds they make.
- develop an awareness that words are made up of sounds.
- automatically read and understand some high-frequency words.
- develop control of small muscles.

Playdough Letters

Step Action

- 1** Have your child squeeze the playdough until it is very flexible and stretchy.
- 2** Children will have fun rolling pieces of playdough between their palms to create long rope-like shapes.
- 3** They can use the rope shapes to make letters or words. 
- 4** Encourage your child to look through books or magazines or on cereal boxes to read and create words they see.
- 5** Have your child name the letters as they form them. If working on sounds, have your child chant the sound the letter makes while forming each letter.
- 6** Have fun searching for other words to create on different surfaces!



A Simple Playdough Recipe

Ingredients:

- 2 cups of flour
- 2 cups of water
- 1 tsp. cream of tartar
- 1 cup of salt
- 1 tbsp. cooking oil
- food colouring

Method:

Mix the flour, salt and cream of tartar in a large pot. Next add the water and oil. You can add food colouring now if using. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly. Keep stirring until the dough becomes thick and begins to form into a ball. Remove from heat and then place onto wax paper. Allow to cool slightly and then knead until smooth. You can store the playdough in a plastic bag to keep it soft. It will last for up to three months.

Once it's all done you're ready to play!

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