

Letters on Keyboard

Linguistic Emergent Transitional:



Goal

Selects any letter on the keyboard page on a communication system during an interaction.

Literacy: Writing Awareness



Preparation

- Select a motivating activity (e.g., reading a book). If you aren't sure, try the [Interest Inventory](#).
 - Activity: _____
- Navigate to the keyboard page or use a printed letter board or computer keyboard.
- If keyboards or letter boards do not seem appropriate, try any alphabet presentation.
 - Other examples include letter cards, the use of a White Board, large alphabet boards, sensory tracing letters, etc.



Materials

- A favorite book or photo album.
- Keyboard page on the communication device, keyboard, or paper alphabet board/cards.



Tips for Success

- Remember to model. [Modeling AAC Example](#)
- For assistance in selecting a motivating activity or topic, try our Interest Inventory here: [Interest Inventory](#).
- At this linguistic level, navigation (finding the Keyboard page) is not required.
- Doing a Picture Walk through the book will be helpful:
 - **What is a picture walk?** A picture walk is a shared experience between an adult and a child. The goal is to help the child make predictions about the book and connect to their own personal experiences, which increases their comprehension. It also is a great way to engage their natural curiosity. Here is how you can get started with a picture walk.
 - Read the title of the book and point to the cover. Ask, **"What do you think this book is about?"**
 - After hearing predictions of the book, point to the picture front cover. Ask questions related to the title and image on the cover page.
 - Flip through the book, pausing at each page or specific pages determined in advance. Point to the picture. Here are some example questions you can ask as you walk through the book together:
 - "What is happening in this picture?" "These kids are smiling. How do they feel?" "What are they doing in the picture?" "I see these friends are playing a board game. What do you like to do with your friends?" "How are you like (or different) than the kids in this picture?" "Tell me about a time you did something like what they are doing in this picture."



Topic Interest
Inventory

Scan QR code



Modeling AAC
Example

Scan QR code



Activity with Steps

- ❶ Introduce the activity “Today we are going to read your book and play with letters on the keyboard.”
- ❷ Begin the book and model selecting letters on the keyboard or alphabet system.
- ❸ Give time for the individual to select letters. Comment on letters that are selected. “You picked the letter r, like in run or red”.
- ❹ If appropriate, expand even more. “You picked the letter r like in run or red. Can you find more words with the letter “r” on this page? Look, he’s wearing a red shirt!”



Supplemental Activities

Repetition with Variety is important in AAC, literacy learning, and writing. Try to vary the activity while working on this skill:

- Reading a book and going on a letter hunt.
- Listening to music for specific letters.
 - I heard the letter “m” in that song, did you?
- Playing a board game with letters involved, like Scrabble or Letter Bingo.
- Going on a letter Scavenger Hunt through the community to find words that begin with a given letter.
- Doodling with letters – use letter stamps or magnet letters to play, scribble, or even make art.



Measuring Success

Here are some other ways to look at progress for this goal:

- Increased attention to the activity.
- Any selections on the keyboard page are correct.
- Decreased amount of cues needed to perform tasks.



Note

The individual does not have to ‘master’ this goal at 80% accuracy before you can move on to the next one. Even if they don’t meet the goal consistently, or without cueing, the individual may still be ready to move forward to the next goal.

Parent/Caregiver Letter

Date: _____

Dear: _____

I'm sending this letter to let you know that we are working on selecting and playing with letters. You will play an important part in the learning process.

How? You can reinforce the skills we address here at home.

- **Model how you use letters** during your daily activities, touch the device yourself, and activate letters as you say them with your speech. Modeling will feel more natural to you the more you do it.
- Complete the attached suggested activities for more ideas about introducing letters and early literacy.

I will be sending more activities and suggestions home. Please provide any feedback and contact me with any questions. The more you can practice, the better! I'm looking forward to hearing more about the fun you have working on this skill.

Sincerely,

Activities for carryover

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____