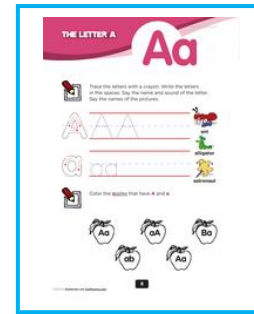


The Letter A - Lowercase (page 6)



Materials:

- alphabet chart or page 4
- **lowercase a** flashcard
- picture cards (ant, alligator, astronaut, apple, banana, cap, duck)
- letter poster for **lowercase a** from previous lesson
- tracing card for **lowercase a**
- dough (such as Playdough)
- markers or crayons
- page 6

Review: 3-5 minutes

- Sing the alphabet song while pointing at the letters
 - For students with less phonics exposure, the teacher should point to a wall chart while singing the song.
 - For students with more phonics exposure and experience, students should point to the letters on page 4 as they sing the song.
- Show the letter and alligator picture flashcard for the letter **Aa**, while saying the letter name, letter sound, the picture name, and stroke count while air writing. Students repeat.
 - Teacher and students: “A, /a/, alligator”; air write and count letter strokes

Preview: 5-7 minutes

- Show the **lowercase a** letter poster and trace the letter, counting the letter strokes.
- Do body letter activity
 - Discuss how **lowercase a** is made of one curved line and one small line.
 - Select two students and use their bodies to form the **lowercase a** on the floor.
 - Now put the students into groups of two and have them create a **lowercase a** with their bodies.

Modeling: 3-5 minutes

- Show the students the tracing card for **lowercase a**.
- Show students how to create a **lowercase a** from dough.
 - Separate the dough into two parts.
 - Roll the dough into one long and one short “snake.”
 - Curve the longer piece to fit inside the curved line on the tracing card.
 - Fit the short piece inside the straight line on the tracing card.
- Show how to trace the letter with their finger, counting the letter strokes.

Guided Practice: 7-10 minutes

- Pass out the tracing card for **lowercase a** to each student.
- Guide students to trace the **lowercase a** with their finger, counting the letter strokes. Repeat 2-3 times.
- Pass out dough to each student and have them break it into two parts and hold it in the air to prevent them from going ahead.
- Guide students to roll a long “snake” and fit it inside the curved line on the tracing card.
- Guide students to roll a shorter “snake” and fit it inside the straight line on the tracing card.
- Guide the students to trace the **lowercase a**, counting the letter strokes. Repeat tracing the lowercase a 2-3 times.

Independent Practice: 5-7 minutes

- Explain how to do each part of page 6.
 - *Hint:* Have an extra copy for you to model each part prior to giving it to the students.
- Pass out page 6 to each student.
 - Students may not all be ready to write the letters without the dotted lines. If they are not, have them only trace the letters. If you want them to have more practice, you can draw your own dotted lines for them to trace.

Assessment: (during Independent Practice)

- As the students are completing page 6, monitor and give guidance/support/correction/praise, as needed.
- Use page 6 as a record and be sure to take note of students who may need more practice and/or instruction.

Closure: 1-2 minutes

- Show the letter and alligator picture flashcard for the **letter Aa**, while saying the letter name, letter sound, the picture name, and stroke count while air writing. Students repeat.
 - Teacher and students: “A, /a/, alligator ”; air write and count letter strokes

