

What's in a Name?

Name Curriculum in Pre-K

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WHY use children's name in the classroom:

- Your name is the first thing that belongs to you.
- Personal ownership is highly important to young children.
- Your name makes you feel special and unique.
- Your name is the first word you learn to read.
- Young children love to see their name written and placed on items.

BEFORE school starts, use your class list to:

- Make welcome signs to post both inside and outside the classroom.
- Label each child's cubby.
- Write a letter to each child; put in the child's cubby or introduce a class mailbox.

DURING the FIRST WEEK of school:

- Take two photos of each child – an up-close picture and a full body shot.
- **Nametags/Name cards:**

- **Children block pieces:**

- **Names for Word/Letter Wall**



DAILY ACTIVITIES to use with children’s names:

- **Daily sign-in**

- **Name poem**

*My name is _____
and as you can see
I am happy to be me!
I am ____ years old
just the right size.
_____ is my hair.
_____ are my eyes.*

- **Name chants/”B-I-N-G-O” song/Rhyming songs**

“Amy, Amy, A-m-y, A-m-y,
line up, line up now.”

“Where will you work today Jonathan?
J-o-n-a-t-h-a-n, where will you work today?”

“There is a girl in our room
and Margaret is her name-o,
M-a-r-g-a-r-e-t,
M-a-r-g-a-r-e-t,
M-a-r-g-a-r-e-t,
Margaret is her name-o,”

Borrow the idea from the
“Apples and Bananas” song.
Say the child’s name substituting vowel sounds.
See if the children can guess whose name it is.
When using the long sound of the vowels,
Ethan becomes Athan, Ethen, Ithin, Othon, Uthun.
The song might go like this:

“I like to see, see, see, Ethan and Marleny.”

It changes to

“I like to say-say-say- Athan and Marlany.”

Sing the Willoughby-Wallaby-Woo song and substitute
rhymes for the children’s names. Let them guess the
names from the rhyme.

“Willoughby-wallaby-woo,
an elephant sat on you.
Willoughby-wallaby-Wargaret,
an elephant sat on _____! (Margaret)”

“Willoughby-wallaby-woo,
an elephant sat on you.
Willoughby-wallaby-Zilliam,
an elephant sat on _____! (William)”



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- **News of the Day and Morning Message**

THROUGHOUT the YEAR incorporate the following name activities:

- **Name Puzzles**

- **Name Trains**



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- **Matching Letters**

- **Letters in My Name Sorting**

- **Encouraging Children to Write Their Name**

- **“Who has got my name?”**



RICE

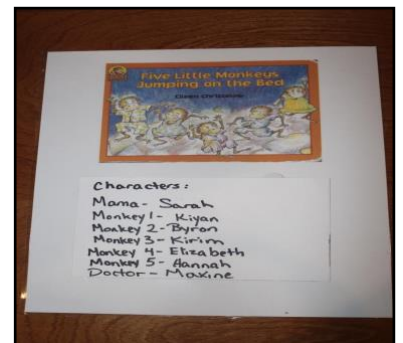
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- **Anchor Charts**

- **Art Projects**

- **Name Games**

- **When dramatizing adult-authored texts**





RICE

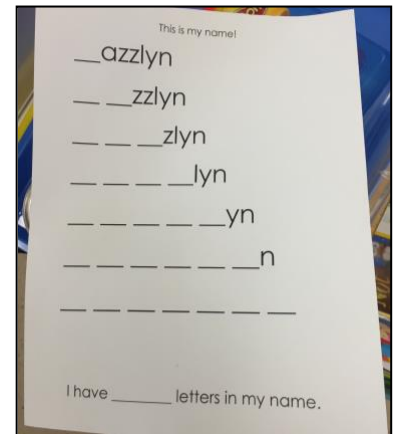
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- **When taking children's dictated stories**



(See *When Stories Come to School* by Patsy Cooper)

This is my name! (Fill in the blank)





CLASS BOOKS using children’s names:

- A class book “The Letters in Our Names”

- Names’ beginning sounds correlated with popular places, foods, characters, etc.

“Margaret likes McDonalds”
 “Troeysha likes Trix”
 “Christopher likes Crispix”

“Cindy likes Sam’s”
 “Katherine likes K-mart.”

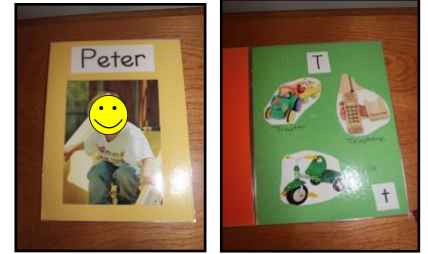
“I spy with my little eye
 someone whose name begins like _____ ”
 (emphasize beginning sound)

- A *My Name is Alice* book

_____ my name is _____
 and my friend’s name is _____.
 We come from _____
 and we sell _____.
 _____ is a _____
 and _____ is a _____.



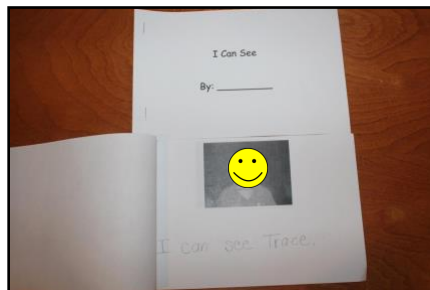
- Individual book for a child with the letters of his/her name



- "On Our Walk We Saw" book



- I Can See book



- Book Titles
