

# Alphabetic Principle Activity: Letter Sounds

## Sounds Dash

**Objective:** To help your child build fluency with letter sounds. (Note: This activity is only appropriate when your child has reached a high level of accuracy in identifying letter sounds.)

**Materials Needed:** Sounds Dash page, timer

**Instructions:** Say *“We’re going to do a Sound Dash. I’ll point to a letter and you’ll say the sound for the letter. Let’s see how close you can get to the finish line in one minute. You’ll need to be careful because if I hear a mistake, you’ll need to go back three letters.”* Tell your child that first he/she needs to get warmed up for the Sounds Dash. Say: *“We’ll practice the sounds in the first row. Then we can start the timer for our dash.”* Ask your child to say the sound for each letter in the first row as you touch it. If he/she misses a sound, tell the sound, have the child repeat it, and move back three letters on the page. If your child makes no more than 1-2 errors in the first row, he/she is ready for the Sounds Dash. Point to the first letter on the page. Start the timer. Have your child say each sound as you touch under the letter. Repeat for each letter in the first row. Then, go immediately to the second row, third row, and so on. If your child makes an error during the dash, provide the correction listed above. Stop the activity after exactly one minute. Count up the number of sounds read. Repeat to see if your child can beat his/her score!

(From Scott Foresman’s Early Reading Intervention)



a r p c g i n s d

g n d a p s r d c i

s c n p i d g s a r

r d a i p s n g c

