

Project Ready!
Playful, Incidental Interventions



Written by
Amy Murdoch, Ph.D.
Rosie Warburg, M.A.

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Introduction

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Why we chose the name:

We call these interventions playful and incidental purposefully. These two words should guide the way you think about these activities.

Playful- Every activity should feel like play to the child. The materials should be inviting and engaging. Ideally, each activity should involve materials that are already familiar play things for your students. These activities should not feel like work to the students.

Incidental- While the teacher will be purposeful in targeting students with these activities and purposeful in the preparation of the materials, implementation should be incidental. Incidental implementation means that the teacher should monitor play and take advantage of moments when students are actively involved in similar play to introduce an intervention activity. Or, even better, where the child asks to play these games. The games should be displayed just out of reach but within view of the children so they can request the teacher to play with them. The materials are displayed in a fun box or basket to be enticing to the child.

What you'll find in this menu:

This menu contains several ideas for playful, incidental intervention activities. The order of presentation does not determine the difficulty level of the activity, nor does it determine its level of impact. Each activity is equally difficult and equally impactful. You may choose to present the activities in any order.

After the activity outlines, you will find a basic cost estimation of all materials. Our hope is that many of these materials are already in your classroom. There is no need to purchase all new materials. Please use what is already available to you, whenever possible.

Preparation of materials:

Keep the following in mind when choosing and preparing intervention activities:

Have an idea of the students you want to target. Consider which students may benefit from extra letter practice. Consider what letters those students have already learned and what letters need to be reviewed.

Prepare these activities ahead of time. Create one or two at a time. Target the letters that your students are currently learning and those that need review. Ideally, each activity should target at least three letters.

Place the activities near the play area in your classroom, but out of reach of children. Children should not have open access to the materials. The activities should be guided by a teacher who is taking advantage of the *incidental* opportunity for *playful* intervention.

Extensions for future learning:

Considering the interests of your students, create your own intervention activities. The main idea here is fun practice with letters the child is working on learning.

Uppercase and Lowercase Egg Matching

Materials:

- Plastic eggs, like you would find in an Easter basket
- Permanent marker for writing on eggs and stickers
- Egg carton
- Stickers for labeling sections of the egg carton
- Basket for holding eggs

Outline:

Prepare Before:

- Write an uppercase letter on one section of an egg and the matching lowercase letter on the other.
- Write letters on stickers and place one sticker on the bottom of each section of egg carton.
- Separate the egg sections on place in basket.

Activity:

Children look through the egg halves in the basket and match uppercase and lowercase letters. Children put the matching halves together to make one egg. Children place the complete egg into the carton, matching the letter on the egg to the letter on the sticker at the bottom of each section.

Photo:



Duplo or Building Blocks

Materials:

- Duplo, or other building blocks
- Stickers for labeling each block with a letter
- Basket or box for holding labeled blocks

Outline:

Prepare Before:

- Write a letter on each sticker.
- Place one sticker on each block.
- Put the blocks together into a basket or box to be stored.

Activity:

Children look at letter sticker on each block and say the name of that letter. There are a variety of ways to play with these blocks. One option is to make towers of blocks with the same letters. Children could then count the blocks in each tower and talk about which letter had more/less blocks, or which tower is taller/shorter. Another option is to create a town, using blocks with the same letters to form one building or placing blocks with the same letters in a line to form streets.

Photo:



Construction Site

Materials:

- Small construction vehicles
- Pebbles that can be lifted by construction vehicles
- Permanent markers for writing letters on pebbles
- Pieces of paper to mark certain areas for delivering pebbles
- Large tray or box for containing all the materials

Outline:

Prepare Before:

- Write a letter on each pebble.
- Write a letter on each piece of paper, one paper for each letter targeted.
- Place all the materials on a tray or in a box.

Activity:

Children use the construction vehicles to pick up one pebble, saying the name of the letter on the pebble. Children deliver the pebble to the piece of paper with the same letter and say the name of the letter again.

Photo:



Alphabet Soup

Materials:

- Many letters. May use any letters you already have: magnetic letters, blocks with letters, foam letters from puzzles, etc.
- Large bowl for holding all of the letters.
- Small bowls that can be labeled with the target letters, one for each letter
- Plastic spoons, one for each target letter
- Permanent marker for labeling small bowls and spoons
- Tray for easy storage and movement

Outline:

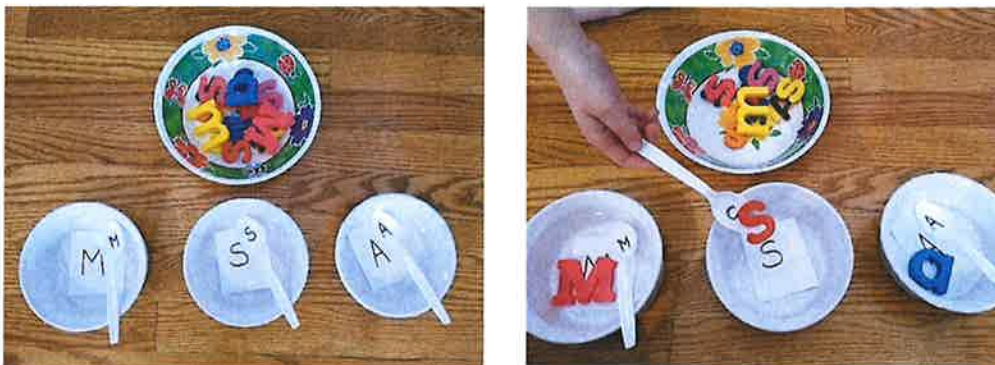
Prepare Before:

- Collect a variety of letters into one large bowl. Remember to include at least three target letters.
- Label each small bowl with a target letter.
- Label each spoon with a target letter.
- Place everything on a tray for easy storage and movement of the activity

Activity:

Children choose one spoon. Children use that spoon to pick up the matching letters in the large bowl, one at a time. Children say the name of the letter on their spoon. Children place the letter into the smaller bowl labeled with the same letter, again saying the name of the letter. Play continues in this way until all of the letters are moved from the large bowl to the smaller bowls.

Photo:



Squishies

Materials:

- Small squishies
- Pieces of colorful paper
- Permanent marker for labeling each squishie and paper with a letter
- Basket for containing all materials

Outline:

Prepare Before:

- Write one target letter on the bottom of each squishie
- Write one target letter on each piece of paper

Activity:

Children pick up a squishie and say the name of the letter on the bottom. Children place the squishie onto a piece of colorful paper with the same letter

Photo:



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Cars and Garages

Materials:

- Small cars
- Stickers for labeling each car with a letter
- Papers labeled with a letter and folded to form "garages"
- Basket or box for containing all the materials

Outline:

Prepare Before:

- Write a letter on each sticker.
- Place one sticker on each car.
- Write a letter on each paper. Fold the paper to form a "garage" large enough for a car to fit inside.
- Place all the materials into a basket or box for storage.

Activity:

Children help to set up the "garages" in the play area, saying the name of each letter. Children choose a car and say the name of the letter on the car. Children drive the car into the garage with the same letter. Children repeat the name of the letter once the car is parked inside the garage.

Photo:



Items with Cost

Item	Intervention Activity	Cost
Permanent Marker- 4 pack	Many	\$4.20
Stickers- pack of 1008	Many	\$4.71
Plastic eggs- 24 pack	Upper and Lowercase Egg Matching	\$6.65
Duplos- 80 piece set	Duplo or Building Blocks	\$78.89
Construction Vehicles- set of 5	Construction Site	\$10.00
Pebbles- 1 pound	Construction Site	\$7.99
Magnetic letters- set of 104	Alphabet Soup	\$8.99
Disposable bowls- 100 count	Alphabet Soup	\$7.95
Disposable Spoons- 100 count	Alphabet Soup	\$9.06
Squishies- 30 pack	Squishies	\$13.99
Cars- 9 count	Cars and Garages	\$9.47

Items without Specific Cost

Item	Intervention Activity
Baskets, trays, boxes, bowl	All
Colorful paper	Many
Egg carton	Upper and Lowercase Egg Matching