

MATERIALS

Aa sound/symbol card
 Aa picture cards

Phonemic awareness worksheet
 Phonics worksheet

Phonemic Awareness

Materials: Picture cards, phonemic awareness worksheet

- Say the word *ant* and emphasize the /a/ sound: /aaa/ /nt/. Have students listen for the /a/ sound at the beginning of the word as you repeat it. Then have them say the word.
- Tell students you are going to say some words. Some of the words begin with /a/ and other words do not. Tell them they should tap their head whenever they hear the /a/ sound at the beginning of a word. Say the following words one at a time, allowing time for student response: *act, lid, am, sob, apple, add, win, as, web, cup, at*.
- Tell students that they can also hear the /a/ sound in the middle of some words. Say the word *cat* and have students repeat it. Ask if they can hear the /a/ in the middle of the word *cat*.
- Say the words *man* and *run*. Ask students which of the two words has /a/ in the middle. Tell students you are going to say some words. Some of the words have /a/ in the middle and some do not. Tell them that you want them to say /a/ when they hear a word that has /a/ in the middle. Say the following words one by one, allowing time for student response: *sack, zinc, chat, map, note, fun, tan, pat, bake, fast, weed*.
- Name each picture on the picture cards with students: *ax, apple, ant, cap, fan, hand, lamb, map*. Have them help you sort the pictures into those with names that start with /a/ and those with names that have /a/ in the middle.
- Give students the phonemic awareness worksheet for extra practice.

Introduce the Sound/Symbol Relationship for Aa /a/

Materials: Sound/symbol card

- Show students the sound/symbol card for *Aa*. Read the word *apple* and point out that the letter *a* stands for the /a/ sound in *apple*. Have students listen for the /a/ sound as they read the word with you.
- Have a volunteer come up and point to the letter in the word *apple* that stands for the /a/ sound.

Blend the Sounds

- Write the letter *n* on the board and ask students what sound this letter stands for. Then write the letter *a* in front of it to make the word *an*. Model sounding out the word as you run your finger under the letters: /aaa/ /nnnn/. Then have students sound it out with you.
- Use the word *an* in several oral sentences and point to the word on the board whenever you say the word in the sentence: *I would like **an** apple. **An** ant can move fast. We saw **an** elephant at the zoo.*

More Practice**Materials: Phonics worksheet**

- Have students complete the phonics worksheet for /a/.