

AlphaToons Letter Walls



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Letter Walls

What is a letter wall?

- It is a visual display of the alphabet that can usually be found in most primary classrooms.
- It needs to be sturdy and flexible (so that you can remove and replace letters during activities).
- It should be easy to read and at a child's eye level in alphabetical order, from left to right.

How can a letter wall be used?

- It can be used to reinforce alphabet knowledge and the alphabetic principle.
- Emergent readers and writers become more aware of letter forms and names while developing the basic letter-sound correspondence.

How can I make my letter wall more effective?

- Add pictures and words under the letters on the Letter Wall.
- Add student names, school pictures and other words that are important to the children (include pictures to represent each word).
- Allow room for placing words under each letter
- Make it interactive and ongoing
- Use it daily in small group, whole class or one-on-one.



Letter Walls Should:

be at eye level and accessible for all children
(Not above the whiteboard!)

always be organized in alphabetical order
from left to right

contain the names and photos of all the children

be flexible and ongoing with room for additional words

be written in all lower case letters
(other than for proper nouns)

contain pictures or symbols for lists of thematic words
that are generated by the students.

be used for writers workshop for editing



Letter Walls

When do I use the Letter Wall? Letter walls:

- should be used daily
- can be used in large group, small group, and/or for center activities

Remember!!

- If you and the children are not interacting and involved with your Letter Wall, it simply becomes a decoration and serves no other purpose.
- Children will only learn from the Letter Wall if it is meaningful to them. They should have some say in what goes up for display, such as names and other words that are important to them.
- Make the games and activities fun, playful, bold, and more importantly, interactive and teach through analogy.

Letter Walls help emergent readers and writers become aware of:

- letter forms
- letter names
- basic letter/sound or sound/symbol correspondence
- the idea that we can write sounds and words down
- the concept of what a word is compared to a letter
- initial letters in familiar words

