

Little Letter Learners

g-u-m (display letter magnets, upper and lower case)

Share the sound each letter represents.

Welcome/Introductions

ABCs (sing song, pointing to letters on poster)

Vowel Song (sing song, pointing to letters on poster)

Dot-to-Dot (Provide as much assistance as needed for the child to be successful with this task. You may be doing all the work, and that's fine so long as you gradually release the workload to the student across the weeks.)

Guess the Covered Letter (Sing the a-b-c song to determine which letters are covered by the pennies.)

Read Featured book(s)

The Bubble Gum Girl by Jim O'Brien

Note the letters and sounds making up the word *gum*.

Letter Sounds Instruction-

Review the sounds for letters g, u, and m. Share pictures of items beginning with those letters.

Students will place pictures under the

/g/, gum, /g/ (kids repeat)

beginning- gum, grapes, garden, gold, grass

/u/, (gorilla sound) /u/ (kids repeat)

beginning- umbrella, umpire, unlock, underwear

/m/, mug/ /m/ (kids repeat)

beginning- mug, monkey, money, magician, macaroni and cheese

Make Directionality Clear

Use the m-u-g sound sorting tent and the SAME picture cards to demonstrate that we're using the same sounds, but **when we change the order of the letters, the word meaning changes**. Instead of g-u-m, we're now looking at m-u-g. Show the students the plastic mug and make clear that one switch of letters changes the meaning entirely! This is really important for promoting directionality. We must make the sounds we see, moving from left to right across words.

Handwriting-

g (small but hangs down), u (small), m (small)

Need:

pencils

tracing papers (Teacher must add stars to show where student should place his or her pencil to start each letter.) Students should write each letter a couple of times on the blank handwriting paper to earn a Swedish Fish or two.

Multi-sensory activity

Kids use the tongs and colorful “gumballs” to create a g, u, and m on the wooden frame, noting the characteristics of each letter aloud.

Need:

colorful gumball-looking balls

wood tray/grid

tongs (promoting fine motor skills)

Sweet Treat/Multisensory Activity

Need:

bubble gum

CHALLENGE: Can you blow a bubble?

Creative Play-

Need:

head image (add hair with crayons)

crayons

pink balloon (pretend bubble)

tape (to attach inflated and tied balloon to the back of the head image)

Dab A Dot Letter/Sound Gumball Coloring

Give kids the sheet with gumballs with letters typed inside. The kids can make the gumballs whatever colors they like (so it looks like gumballs in a gumball machine), but they must produce the correct sound for each one before they dab it with color.

Additional Play-

Use pink **Pop It** square to “pop one bubble” for each sound heard in the following words (for which we have pictures in the image sort).

gum (3), grass (4), mug (3), money (4)