

X,x Y,y Z,z (display letter magnets)

## **Welcome/Introductions**

**ABCs** (sing song, pointing to letters on poster)

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

**Dot-to-Dot** (providing as much help as needed)

**Guess the Covered Letter**

## **Read Featured book(s)**

*My x, y, z Book* by Jane Belk Moncure

Teach kids about situation of being caught with your zipper unzipped and (Heaven forbid!) someone sees your underwear. 😊 Someone might say, “X-Y-Z” as a discreet way to say, “Examine your zipper!”

→ Show the image of the embarrassed kid with his zipper unzipped. As you discuss the awkward moment, be sure to share that it’s really NOT a big deal. Everyone forgets to fully zip up from time to time. Share that, if it ever happens, it’s healthy to just laugh at ourselves and move on.

Sometimes ornery kids “trick” their friends by saying, “X-Y-Z” to make people feel a bit embarrassed—for just a second. Their friends check their zippers to be sure they’re zipped and laugh (or roll their eyes—Oh, brother...) at the joke.

## **Featured Vocabulary Word- eXamine**

Give the students a toy magnifying glass to reinforce that *examine* means to look at closely. Examine the items on the tiny tidbits page (w/magnifying glasses) using a magnifying glass.

Most kids don't know how to use a magnifying glass. Please instruct them to place the glass on the paper above the first tiny tidbit and then gradually pull the glass upward toward themselves. As the glass moves upward, the image will grow. NOTE: Kids should not move their faces down toward the glass/image.

\*Kids may keep the magnifying glass and the Tiny Tidbits slip.

## **Letter Sounds Instruction-**

Share pictures/items beginning with (or, for x, containing) x, y, z

Teacher: names the letter, names the sound, and names the key words (x/examine, y/your, z/zipper) and makes the sound again.

Students place pictures of items with initial sounds corresponding with the letters on the sorting tent.

**/x/, examine, /x/ (kids repeat) -- vocab- give small magnifying glass**  
exit, xylophone, X-ray, examine, ax, six, box, wax (craft sticks)

Motion: Note that the letter x represents two sounds. To reinforce this, make a fist with your right hand and place it on the left shoulder so your arm is at a diagonal and say /k/. Make a fist with your left hand and place it on the right shoulder so your arm is at a diagonal and say /s/. Uncross them and make the sounds together while making the full x across your chest.

Say: X says /ks/.

NOTE: Some images have the x at the ends of words. Use the "beginning" and "ending" finger slide line to determine where the sound is.

**/y/, your, /y/ (kids repeat)**

yellow, yo-yo, yarn, yogurt, yawn, yell, yoga, yak

Motion: Make a karate chop hand, chop into the air and say /y/.  
(with no vowel sound following).

Say: Y says /y/.

**/z/, zipper, /z/ (kids repeat)**

zipper, zebra, zucchini, zig zag, zero, zoo, zeppelin, zinnia

Motion: Point your pointer finger and draw a z in the air saying /z/, /z/, /z/--three times—one for each line in the letter.

Say: Z says /z/.

## **Craft Activity**

Need:

black x cut out letter, Q-tips, & glue (to make X-ray)

yellow y cut out letter, yellow yarn, yo-yo cut out, & glue (to make yo-yo)

white z cut out letter, black strips, black yarn fringe, wiggle eye, & glue (to make zebra)

## **Multi-sensory activity**

wax letter formations

Need:

½ sheet papers with letter guides, laminated

Wax Craft Sticks

Kids make letters (using guides if needed) to create x, y, and z.

## **Handwriting-**

**x (small), y (hangs down), z (small)**

Need:

pencils

tracing papers (add stars to show where to place pencil at the start)

handwriting papers (stapled in packet)

## **Sweet Treat-**

Make uppercase x, y, and z using Pixy Stixs.

Note that all three letters are made with straight lines (and most of them are diagonal lines). Use the words *diagonal* and *horizontal* as you're making the letters.

Kids keep one Pixy Stix to enjoy for a treat.