

LESSON PLAN GUIDE

PictureBook English Reading Series — Alphabet

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Category	Alphabet	Title	Alphabet Book 4 – Hide and See: Letter Shape Game
Ages	3-6	Theme	Lowercase Letter Shape Recognition — Similar and Hidden Letters

INTRODUCTION OF THE BOOK

This book is specially designed for young learners who are still confused by the shapes of similar-looking lowercase letters — pairs like b and d, m and n, p and q, and v and w. Rather than drilling letter shapes through repetition, this book turns the confusion into a game: some letters are hiding behind others on stage, and children get to discover who is hiding!

Learning through play is at the heart of this book. The Hide and See game format transforms letter confusion from a source of frustration into a source of delight — every page is a puzzle to solve together. Children who complete this book will feel far more confident distinguishing tricky letter pairs.

COMMONLY CONFUSED LETTER PAIRS

Easily confused pairs	Why they look alike	Easily confused pairs	Why they look alike
b and d	<i>Mirror images — same shape, opposite direction</i>	v and w	<i>w looks like two v shapes joined</i>
m and n	<i>n is hidden inside m — same humps, different count</i>	i and j	<i>j is i with a tail added below</i>
p and q	<i>Mirror images — same shape, opposite direction</i>	c and e	<i>e looks like c with a line across</i>
u and n	<i>Mirror images — same shape, flipped upside down</i>	h and n	<i>n is the bottom half of h</i>

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Children will be able to:

- Visually distinguish between commonly confused lowercase letter pairs — b/d, m/n, p/q, v/w, and others
- Recognise when one letter shape is hidden inside or behind another
- Identify letters by colour count and shape clues
- Create their own letter hide-and-see game using similar letter shapes

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. Ask which letters look similar

On each page, lowercase letters come up on stage — some hiding behind others! Before anything else, ask your child: 'Which letters look alike on this page?' and 'Do any of these letters look like they could be hiding inside another one?' This observation question activates visual thinking and gets children looking carefully at letter shapes before the reveal.

2. Count the colours to find hidden letters

Each page uses different colours to show how many letters are hiding behind each other. Ask your child to count the colours carefully — for example: 'How many colours can you see? That tells us how many letters are on stage together!' Let your child guess which letters are hiding before they check the answer on the next page.

3. Reveal and cheer

When the hidden letters appear on the next page, say each letter name out loud together and cheer for every correct guess! The celebration makes the memory stick — children are far more likely to remember a letter pair they triumphantly identified than one they were simply told.

4. Make your own Hide and See game

Encourage your child to create their own version of the game with lowercase letters. Ask them to look for more letters that look alike, then draw and colour their own hide-and-see pages. This creative activity deepens understanding of letter shapes far more effectively than tracing exercises alone.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Play a Letter Detectives game. Write a lowercase letter on a piece of paper and ask your child: 'Is this a b or a d?' or 'Is this an m or an n?' Start with clear, well-formed letters, then try writing them in different sizes or styles to build robust recognition. For an extra challenge, write a simple word and ask your child to check if any easily confused letters are hiding in it — for example: 'Can you find the b in the word bed? Is it facing the right way?' This detective approach builds careful visual discrimination skills that are essential for reading.

Try the fun online learning activities for this book on our website!

[Click here to try the online learning activities](#)

TEACHER'S NOTES AND TIPS

Letter reversal — particularly b/d and p/q — is one of the most common challenges in early literacy and is completely normal in children up to age 7 or 8. This book addresses the issue playfully rather than correctively, which is exactly the right approach. A helpful classroom anchor for b/d: make a fist with the left hand and stick up the thumb — the shape looks like a 'b'. Make a fist with the right hand — it looks like a 'd'. Children who use their hands never forget which is which. The make-your-own-game activity is particularly valuable as it shifts children from passive observers to active creators of letter knowledge — one of the most powerful learning experiences at this age.