

**Targeted skills:** This activity will address academic skills, specifically literacy. This activity is suitable for children ages three to five and are developing matching skills or letter identification. The child will develop uppercase and lowercase letter recognition as well as hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills (grasping a cup). The student will have to match the letter on the cup to the corresponding letter on the paper. (This activity may be modified to develop mathematical skills (e.g counting and numeral recognition).) The ability to recognize letters of the alphabet is crucial to reading and writing skills.

**Materials required (include price, quantity required, and links to follow to order materials)**

- 9 to 26 paper cups (any size) - **\$3.94** for a pack of 100 5 ounce cups
- 1 Permanent markers (any color) - **\$3.39** for a pack of 2 black Sharpies
- 1 sheet of paper (any color, 8.5" x 11" copy paper or any size you have around your home) - **\$2.84** for a pack of 50 Pastel colors
- Total: \$10.17

<https://www.walmart.com/ip/Dixie-5oz-Multi-Purpose-Paper-Cups-100ct/21942572>

<https://www.walmart.com/ip/Fine-Tip-Permanent-Marker-Black-2-Pack/22478127>

<https://www.walmart.com/ip/Tru-Ray-Construction-Paper-76lb-9-x-12-Assorted-Pastel-Colors-50-Pack/178708639>

**Instructions:**

1. Take out 9 paper cups from the package and set it on the flat surface.
2. Take out 1 marker and set it on the flat surface.
3. Take out 1 sheet of paper and set it on the flat surface.
4. Put one cup upside down on the paper.
5. Trace 9 circles on the paper using the opening end of the cup.
6. Set the cup to the side of the paper.
7. Write the letters A-I in lowercase in the circles you've drawn in any order.
8. Write the letters a-i in uppercase on the bottoms of the cups.
9. Take out more cups from the box.
10. Repeat steps 5 to 8 using other letters of the alphabet on different sheets of paper.
11. Mix up the cups.
12. Give the cups and sheet of paper to a child between the ages of 3 to 5.
13. Have the child match the cups to the sheet of paper.
14. The game may be played daily or weekly to develop letter recognition skills.

**Modifications that may need to be made based on child's needs (list at least 2-3)**

1. Ask the child what sounds the letter makes.
  - a. Once the child has become more proficient with matching the letters, the adult may begin introducing letter sounds. This will help the child to develop skills necessary to read and write.
2. Ask the child what words begin with that letter.
  - a. This will help the child to develop cognitive skills. This modification can also lead to vocabulary growth.
3. Have the child trace the letters with his or her finger.
  - a. This modification can help the child develop hand strength and hand-eye coordination. The child can also practice spatial awareness while learning about where to start writing letters.
4. The game may be played using numerals and dots in order to develop math skills.
  - a. Once the child has mastered this literacy game, he or she can move on to numeral recognition and counting. The game can also be played in conjunction.

**Notes - what existing skills are required to complete activity? What skills would follow?**

In order to complete this activity, an adult must first set up the game with circles on a sheet of paper and fill out the circles with various letters. The adult must also help the child write the matching letters on the bottom of the cup. In order to develop literacy skills, the child may have to play this game a few times in order to be proficient with letter recognition. It is recommended that the adult guide the child depending on how independent or proficient he or she is with letter recognition. The game can also be modified for math skills (e.g. counting dots and numeral recognition).

**Include a photo of materials, completed activity, game, etc.**



Images from Walmart.com



\*I honestly thought of this game! Then I searched “cups literacy game” and this image popped up. I thought that the families should use things that are accessible in any supermarket.

Source: [planningplaytime.com](http://planningplaytime.com)

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**Checklist**

**Targeted skill**

- Identify one or two targeted skills
- Justification – explain why this skill important for young children

**Materials required**

**include price, quantity required, and links to follow to order materials**

- Price for each required item
- Quantities required
- Links to ordering information

**Instructions**

- Step-by- step
- Specific and detailed

**Modifications**

- Identify at least 2-3 modifications
- Justify and explain why modifications were selected

**Notes**

- Lists prior skill(s) necessary for completion of activity
- List skill(s) to follow

**Photo**

- Photo(s) included

**Comments/feedback:**