

Purple Alphabet Soup

Introduction	Use a fun, entertaining activity to help children develop letter and sound recognition.
Goals	To foster alphabet recognition skills and associate the names of letters with their shapes and sounds.
Before You Start	This activity should be done only if children have had exposure to letters and their sounds. The teacher must have several Purplinkers and each child should have their own. You will need a large mixing bowl with a spoon, paper, markers and several Purplinkers, formed in the shape of the letters in the bowl.
Let's Begin	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Hold up the bowl in front of the children and begin mixing. Ask if they have any idea what's in the bowl.2. After they guess, tell them you are stirring a bowl of alphabet soup.3. Pick the Purplinker letter out with the spoon and hold up the letter and ask the children to identify it and the sound it makes.4. Ask the children to look around the room and see if they can find anything that begins with the letter.5. Help them make their Purplinkers' into the letter shapes.6. Have them trace the letter shape and next to it include a drawing of the object they identified.7. Continue picking letter shapes out of the bowl and repeating the steps above.
Furthermore	You can choose one letter or several each day until the entire alphabet has been identified and drawn. If it is possible, serve alphabet soup for lunch or a snack on the day you begin and/or the day you make the display.

The Next Level

The teacher holds up a letter A. (The teacher has the Purplinker letter template available for the students to follow.) The students try to form the letter using their own Purplinker and some help from the teacher. When all have completed the letter, the teacher can explain the sound that the A makes and ask them to find objects in the classroom that start with the letter A. The students can also trace the letter they form and then color or print the tracing.