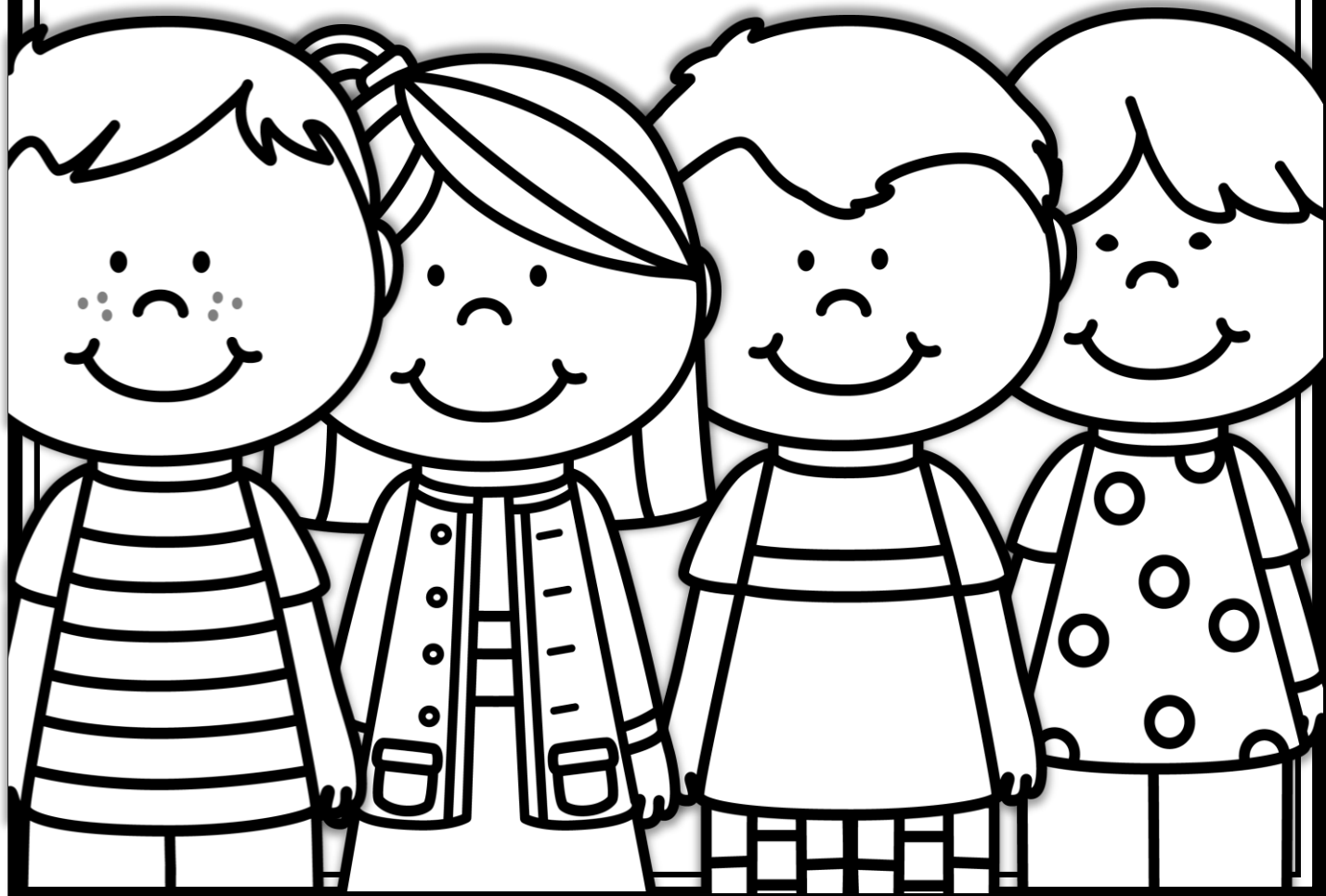


Hands-On and Engaging

NAME ACTIVITIES

**A Step-By-Step
Guide For Parents**



I Know My Name!

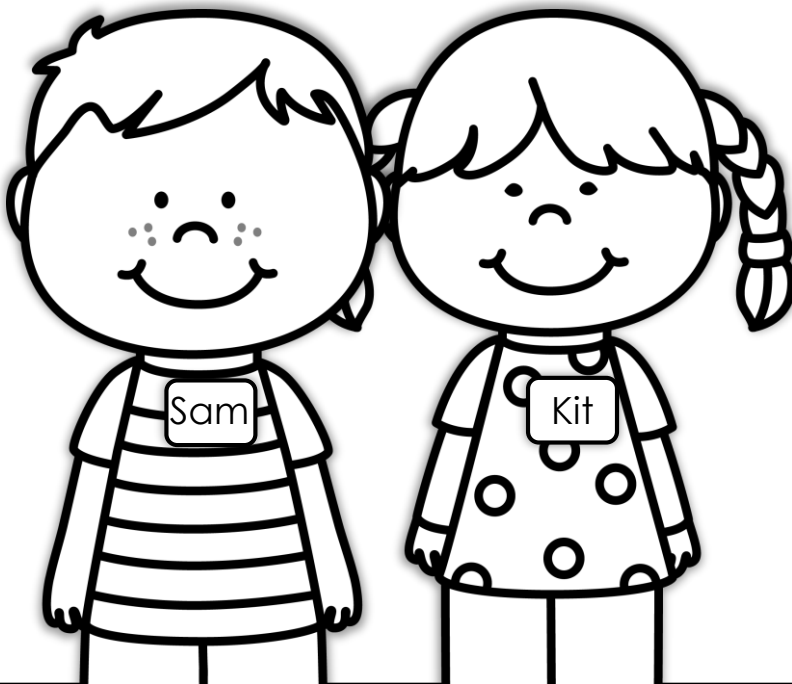
Name Building Activities

Dear Families,

Thanks so much for your dedication and interest in your child's education. This year we will be learning a lot of new and exciting skills. One of the first skills we will cover this year is something your child knows a lot about already - their name! We will start by practicing and mastering our first names and then we will move on to our last names. When practicing our first name we will not only identify our name, but we will also learn all of the letters in our name. Most importantly this year we will be learning proper handwriting for our names. We will learn what letters are made with sticks, what letters in our name are capital, and which letters are not. This can prove to be a tough task, but with a lot of practice we can master this in no time. Learning our names is an important jumping off spot for learning the letters of the alphabet so we will want to learn those quickly. How can you help? Well, we will be working very hard in the classroom, but you can help give your child an extra boost with these ten fun and exciting hands-on activities. Each of the ten activities are explained on the following pages. If you have any questions about these

activities or how to better help your child master their name, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you so much,



Watch a video of the name activities by scanning here!

I Know My Name!

Name Building Activities

Activity:

1

Mix and Fix It: Encourage your child to build their name and say each letter as they build it. Once their name is built, have your child mix up the letters and build it again. Point to the letters from the beginning to the end, one at a time. Ask your child to state each letter. Then, point to the letters in a random order and ask your child to state the letters. You can use bottlecaps, small pieces of paper, stones with letters written on them, or even small toy cars with the letters written on the top.



Activity:

2

Build It: Using yarn or string cut strips for the letters in your child's name. Cut each strip to make up the letter. For example, for the capital A your child will need two long strips and one short strip. Encourage your child to build each letter one-by-one. Have them use their index finger to trace each letter and state the letter. Have your child mix and fix the letters 2-3 times.



Activity:

3

Dough It: Using play dough have your child build each letter of their name. Your child will pinch off a small amount of play dough and roll it between their palms to create a play dough snake. Encourage them to keep rolling the snake until the desired length is met. Your child will need to roll each snake to make the letter. After all of the letters have been made, have them go back through and state each letter one-by-one.



Activity:

4

Clip It: For this activity you will need one index card and enough clothespins to match the number of letters in your child's name. You will write their name onto the index card and the matching letters onto the clothespins. Your child will clip their letters onto their name index card. Be sure that students are building their name from the first letters to the last letter. Have your child state each letter as they clip it onto the index card.



Activity:

5

Puzzle It: For this activity you will need one index card. You will write their name onto the index card and cut between each letter in different patterns. Your child will put their name puzzle together starting with the first letter in their name. For a more challenging activity cut straight up between the letters. Have your child state each letter as they put the puzzle together.



I Know My Name!

Name Building Activities

Activity:

6

Write It: There are several fun ways for students to write their names. Adding in fun and novelty can really make practicing their name a lot of fun. Students can practice writing their names with a sensory approach by using paint bags. Simply squirt 3-4 tablespoons of washable paint into a small plastic baggie. Make sure that the baggie has been sealed. Students can practice writing their names with their finger or a Q-Tip.



Activity:

7

Rainbow It: Another fun and exciting way to practice writing names is by rainbow writing. When students rainbow write their names, they are able to practice over and over again on the same sheet. To prep the rainbow writing, you will simply write your child's name onto a blank sheet of paper. Your child will get to choose any of their most favorite colors of crayons or markers. Have your child state each letter name as they trace over it.



Activity:

8

Touch It: For students, bringing in multiple ways to practice their names can heighten understanding of how the letters are "made" as well as help their retention of the letters. You can use glue or a hot glue gun to write your child's name onto a piece of cardboard. This will give their name a raised and bumpy feeling. They will practice tracing over the letters with their finger. You can also place a small amount of shaving cream or sand into a small bowl. Your child can practice tracing their name in that material.



Activity:

9

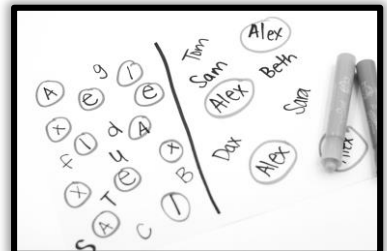
Sort It: It is important for students to be able to recognize the letters that are in their names. Often times students can identify that the letter is in their name, but then they are unable to state that letter's name. When creating a name sort activity, you will want to write the letters in your child's name several times onto small pieces of paper. The students will then sort and state the letter names. They can sort letters into cups, onto plates, or into columns on a piece of paper.



Activity:

10

Search It: Your child will also need practice in distinguishing between letters that are in their name and those that are not. Equally important your child will need to be able to fluently identify their name amongst several other students' names. To practice this you can take a blank piece of paper and write several letters, some that are in their name and some that aren't. Your child will go through and circle the letters found in their name. You can repeat this activity with multiple names.



Thanks so much for downloading my freebie parent guide to hands-on name work. You can view a video of the activities [HERE](#). If needing to edit the parent letter you can do so by downloading an editable version [HERE](#). If you have any additional questions as always, feel free to email me at littlemindsatworkllc@gmail.com, follow me on [Facebook](#), join my [Facebook Group](#), or visit my blog, [Little Minds at Work](#).

Jara West

