Beginning Sound Cards

**To prepare the activity:** Cut the picture and letter cards apart. Stack each group of pictures with the corresponding beginning letter card. Store each set in a labeled envelope. Store the envelopes in alphabetical order in a box.

**Set up:** Choose several sets of cards. Be sure to select beginning letter sounds that have been taught. Start with only two sets. When students develop confidence, work with three sets, then four. Line up the letter cards vertically on the left side of a table, or in an extra wide pocket chart. Shuffle the picture cards and place them in a stack face down.

**To do the activity:** Students pick one picture card at a time, name the picture, listen for the beginning sound, and place the picture to the right of the correct letter. This will build rows of pictures starting with the same sound. Students like to comment about which letter is “winning,” in other words, which row has the most cards. Be sure to tell students the names of any unfamiliar pictures.

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**Picture names:**

- a - ant, attic, anchor, alligator, astronaut, ankle, apple
- b - book, ball, bed, bus, boat, bird, boy
- c - cat, car, cup, cow, castle, cap, carrot
- d - dinosaur, door, duck, doll, dog, dish, dollar
- e - egg, Eskimo, escalator, elevator, elephant, elf, edge
- f - fan, feet, fork, fish, fire, food, farm
- g - gum, gas, gate, goat, garage, gold, girl
- h - hat, horse, hose, house, hair, hammer, hawk
- i - in, igloo, ink, iguana, Indian, insect, inchworm
- j - jet, jam, jeep, jump, jacket, Jack-in-the-box, jeans
- k - kick, kangaroo, kite, kiss, key, king, kitten
- l - leg, leaf, ladder, lamb, lake, little, laugh
- m - mop, mouse, moon, milk, moth, me, mask
- n - nut, nest, nose, nurse, net, nickel, nap
- o - ox, olive, ostrich, octopus, opposite, octagon, off
- p - pig, pie, pocket, paint, purse, pool, push
- qu - quilt, queen, quail, quack, quarrel, quiz, quill
- r - run, rocket, rabbit, rain, ring, rope, rose
- s - sun, sock, seal, sing, soup, sail, sad
- t - tag, tulip, tent, tub, tail, tea, tall
- u - up, umbrella, under, umpire, udder, us, unhappy
- v - van, volcano, violin, vest, volleyball, valley, veil
- w - web, wig, worm, wagon, wasp, wind, wink
- x - (ending sounds) box, fix, ax, tux, fox, mix, six
- y - yo-yo, yak, year, yarn, yawn, yard, yolk
- z - zigzag, zipper, zebra, zero, zoo, zucchini, zoom

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