

**Focus Subject:** Literature

## Overview

In this activity the children will work on letter recognition.

*We will experience:*

- Letter recognition for the letter 'Z'.

## Required Materials

Required Materials - Description/ Title
Basic classroom supplies.
Alphabet Flash Cards (Brighter Child Flash Cards) (Cards)
The Alphabet Song

## Supplemental Materials

The following materials are not required for this activity but are listed to provide additional materials to supplement this activity. Easily order supplemental materials for use with this activity at [www.naturekidscurriculum.com/materials](http://www.naturekidscurriculum.com/materials)

Supplemental Materials - Description/ Title
KidZUp Favorite Pre-K Songs (This CD contains the required song for this activity plus songs that may be used in other activities.)
Phonics Flash Cards (Brighter Child Flash Cards) (Cards)
First Words Flash Cards (Brighter Child Flash Cards) (Cards)
Eating the Alphabet: Fruits & Vegetables from A to Z (Harcourt Brace Big Book) (Paperback)

## Instructions

### 'Z' is for Zebra

**Purpose:** (a) support letter recognition, and (b) support letter pronunciation and phonics.

1. **Show:**

- The activity to the children.
- Point out the letter 'Z'. This is the big letter 'Z'; and this is the 'small' lowercase letter 'z'.
- 'Z' sounds like Z - Zebra. Pronounce the letter 'Z' several times so the children associate the sound of the letter with the sound they make when they say ZEBRA. Ask the children to repeat this with you several more times.

2. **Explain:**

- We are coloring the letters and picture.

3. **Demonstrate:**

- Where the children should color (letter & picture).

4. **Assist** the children with coloring but allow them to try. Give encouraging feedback for their efforts.
5. Using the alphabet flash cards work with the letters you have covered recently, repeatedly showing the 'Z' to build sight recognition of the letter. Ask the group to call out the letters and say "as in \_\_\_\_\_" as you show them. Ask the children to repeat it back to you. Use the pictures on the flash card to help the children associate the letter with the sound they make when they say the object in the picture. We are trying to get the children to not only recognize the letter but associate the sound the letter makes with words they currently pronounce. Assist the children in remembering and pronouncing the letters as needed.
6. Play & sing the 'Alphabet Song'.
7. Use supplemental material or books as you wish.

**'Z' is for Zebra.**

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