

Early Years Phonics Teaching Script: Letters D, E, F

Lesson Overview:

Topic: Letters D, E, F Introduction

Age Group: 5-6 years

Duration: 30 minutes

Prior Knowledge: Letters A-C and vowels

Learning Objectives:

- Recognize and form letters D, E, and F
- Associate correct phonetic sounds with each letter
- Identify initial sounds in words
- Begin blending sounds in simple words

- ✓ Large letter cards (D, E, F)
- ✓ Picture cards
- ✓ Letter formation sheets
- ✓ Sound boxes
- ✓ Magnetic letters
- ✓ Student workbooks
- ✓ Assessment sheets
- ✓ Letter songs ready

Pre-Lesson Setup (Essential)

Room Organization:

- Arrange carpet space in semicircle formation
- Position letter cards at child eye-level
- Set up individual workstations with formation materials
- Prepare sound sorting stations
- Check acoustics for clear sound discrimination

Common Early Phonics Challenges:

- Letter reversal (especially 'D')

- Confusion between 'E' and 'F' formation
- Difficulty discriminating between similar sounds
- Inconsistent letter formation direction

Detailed Teaching Sequence

Warm-Up Phase (0-5 minutes)

[Position students in semicircle, ensure all can see clearly]

"Good morning letter explorers! Today we're going on an exciting journey to meet three new letter friends. First, let's wake up our listening ears and singing voices!"

Engagement Activities:

- Phonological awareness warm-up:

"Touch your head if you hear /d/: dog, cat, duck, ball, door"

- Quick review of known letters:

"Let's remind ourselves of our ABC song up to C..."

- Movement integration:

"Stand tall like an alphabet letter when you hear one you know!"

Letter D Introduction (5-10 minutes)

[Display large 'D' card, ensure all children can see]

"Meet our first new friend - the determined Letter D! It makes a special sound, and I need your detective ears to help discover it."

Letter D Teaching Sequence:

1. Sound Introduction:

- Model: "/d/, /d/, /d/ - watch my mouth, my tongue taps gently"
- Group practice: "Let's all be drums: /d/, /d/, /d/"
- Individual practice: "Tap your drum when you say /d/"

2. Formation Teaching:

- Air writing: "Big line down, climb back up, round belly"
- Tactile practice: "Draw D on your friend's back"

- Movement: "Make D with your body!"

Support Strategies:

- Use playdough to form letter D
- Provide hand-over-hand guidance
- Use alliteration: "Dancing dinosaurs dig deeply"

Letter E Exploration (10-15 minutes)

[Transition smoothly, maintain engagement]

"Now we're going to meet Letter E! E is extra special because it has three important lines. Listen carefully to E's special sound: /e/, /e/, /e!"

Letter E Teaching Sequence:

1. Sound Discovery:

- Connect to emotions: "Make an excited face: /e/!"
- Use movement: "Stretch up tall like an elephant"
- Sound games: "Is it E? egg, cat, elephant, elbow"

2. Formation Focus:

- Visual demonstration: "Watch how E grows"
- Guided practice: "Three special lines, like steps"
- Reinforcement: "Can you spot E in our classroom?"

Multisensory Approaches:

- Trace E in sand trays
- Build E with craft sticks
- Find E shapes in the environment
- Create E with body positions

Challenge Activities:

- Create an 'E' collage with pictures
- Write simple 'E' words (egg, end)
- Match uppercase and lowercase 'e'

Letter F Finale (15-20 minutes)

[Maintain high energy, use visual supports]

"Our last letter friend today is the fantastic Letter F! F stands tall and proud with two friendly arms. Let's discover its special sound together: /f/, /f/, /f!"

Letter F Teaching Points:

1. Sound Exploration:

- Relate to familiar sounds: "Like air escaping a balloon"

- Use storytelling: "F is a friendly firefighter"
- Interactive practice: "Blow a feather with the F sound"

2. Formation Guide:

- Vertical line demonstration: "Stand tall like a flagpole"
- Add horizontal lines: "Two friendly arms reaching out"
- Practice sequence: "Down, across top, across middle"

Interactive Learning Stations:

Station 1: Sound Sort

- Picture cards beginning with D, E, F
- Sound boxes for sorting
- Self-checking system

Station 2: Letter Formation

- Playdough mats
- Rainbow writing sheets
- Magnetic letters

Station 3: Word Building

- Simple CVC words
- Picture matching
- Letter tiles

Progress Monitoring

Letter Recognition

- Identifies D, E, F in isolation
- Recognizes among similar letters
- Matches uppercase to lowercase

Sound Production

- Produces correct phonemes
- Identifies initial sounds
- Blends with known letters

Letter Formation

- Forms letters correctly

- Maintains proper direction
- Shows appropriate spacing

Reinforcement Activities (20-25 minutes)

1. Letter Detective Game

- Display classroom objects
- Children identify initial sounds
- Sort into D, E, F groups
- Use visual cues and prompts

2. Movement Integration

- "Dance like D" - twirl and curve
- "Stretch like E" - make body lines
- "Float like F" - make letter shapes

3. Sound Blending Practice

- Simple D words: dog, dig, dad
- Easy E words: egg, end
- Basic F words: fan, fit, fun

Challenge Extensions

Advanced Learners

- Write simple sentences
- Create letter stories
- Lead peer practice

Support Strategies

- Additional tactile practice
- Simplified word choices
- One-to-one guidance

Lesson Closure (25-30 minutes)

"Let's remember our new letter friends! Show me with your bodies:"

- "Make a D - what's its sound?"
- "Show me E - what words start with E?"
- "Form an F - can you find F in our room?"

Quick Check Understanding:

- Individual sound production
- Group letter recognition
- Formation confidence check

Home Learning Connections

Family Engagement Activities

- Letter hunt around home
- Sound spotting games
- Practice sheets for formation
- Environmental print awareness

Take-Home Materials

- Letter cards for practice
- Formation rhymes sheet
- Picture sorting activity
- Progress recording sheet

Preparation for Next Lesson

- Review assessment data
- Prepare additional support materials
- Plan differentiated activities
- Set up letter practice stations

Professional Development Notes

Key Teaching Strategies

- Multi-sensory approach importance
- Pace and progression monitoring
- Differentiation techniques
- Assessment for learning

Evidence-Based Practice

- Systematic phonics teaching
- Movement integration benefits
- Memory and retention strategies
- Early literacy development

Letter F Finale (15-20 minutes)

[Maintain high energy, prepare for final letter]

"Our last letter friend is the fantastic Letter F! F stands tall and proud with two friendly arms."

Letter F Activities:

1. Sound Introduction:
 - Demonstrate: "Quiet sound like wind: /f/, /f/, /f/"
 - Practice: "Blow a feather with F sound"
 - Group game: "Find the F sounds: fish, cat, frog"

Quick Assessment Check:

- Individual sound recognition
- Letter formation accuracy
- Initial sound identification

Lesson Close:

- Review all three letters: D, E, F
- Celebration of learning
- Preview next lesson

Home Learning Activities:

- Letter hunt in magazines
- Practice sheets provided
- Online games recommended