Arabic Movable Alphabet

To Make:

- Print off the Arabic Movable Alphabet pages. I think I printed two of each page.
- Laminate and then cut out each letter individually.
- Place the letters in an organizer (something like a tackle box works well).

To Use:

Floor activity: Spread a large rug for the work area. You open the moveable alphabet box and show the letters to the child. You make sure that the child knows where the letters are in the box. Ask to find various letters, such as, "Can you show me "alif"? and so on.

After the child has a grasp of where the letters are you begin by saying, now we will make ______. For example, the word "arnab." Ask, "What letters do you hear when I say "arnab"? The child finds the first letter and puts it on the mat. Ask, "what other sounds do you hear?" S-I-o-w-I-y and clearly enunciate the word for the child. Continue until your child finds all the letters of the word. Mind you, in the initial version, your child will just be putting the letters out for the word (you do not use the letters printed out for joining yet if that makes sense). You just want to help your child develop a sense of what letters are used in the word based on what they hear and to develop a familiarity with the letters. Once that is accomplished, then you can use the moveable alphabet that includes joining letters (beginning, middle, and end). I hope this makes sense.

Continue to make words with your child until the exercise is mastered. Eventually, your child will be able to work alone.

Note: Make sure you use letters that your child knows. Also, continue to work on the phonetic sounds of the alphabet.

I would suggest starting with words that have few letters at first and then work your way up to more letters.



One thing to mention is that it is not a fun task to go hunting for these containers to put the letters in - you either find containers that are too big or those that are too small. I found a tacklebox set at Wal-Mart (under \$10) that was perfect - it has four boxes (please see picture at left).

Here are some additional ideas for using the Arabic Moveable Alphabet with your child - I am sure I will come up with more in the future.

- 1. Scramble the letters up and have your child place them in alphabetical order on the floor.
- 2. Put two letters together (missing a letter in between). For example, put alif and ta down on the floor with a space between them ask them what letter comes between the two letters.
- 3. If you don't want to print out the fishing game that is on Yemenlinks just use one set of the Arabic Moveable Alphabet. Clip a paperclip to each letter and throw them into a box. Attach a magnet to a string (you will need to find a magnet with a hole in it to attach the string) you can probably find one in an office supply store be creative! If you want, attach the string to a stick or something else to work as a pole. Have your child fish for the letters when they pick one up have them name the letter. If they don't know their alphabet yet, just name the letter for them. Over time, once they know the names of the letters, have them tell you the name. If they don't remember, tell them the name of the letter and put that letter back in the box see if they remember it next time.
- 4. Place before your child three letters and ask them which letter comes first, second and third.
- 5. When your child is older (and knows Arabic) you can pick out of a bag a letter. Have your child write on a piece of paper words that they can think of that begin with that letter. See how many words your child can come up with.

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