

Recognize that spoken words are represented in written language by specific sequence of letters.

Map Text to Speech 1

Objective: Understand the concept of a letter and distinguish letters from other types of objects.

Letter Sort

- *Box*
- *Index cards*
- *Marker*

On each index card, write a word, number, or letter, making several cards for each category. Put all the cards into a “magic box” and have students take turns pulling out a card. Let them sort the cards by putting the words into one pile, the letters into another, and the numbers into another. (You can simplify this activity, if necessary, by using only words and letters.)

Letter Puppet Activity

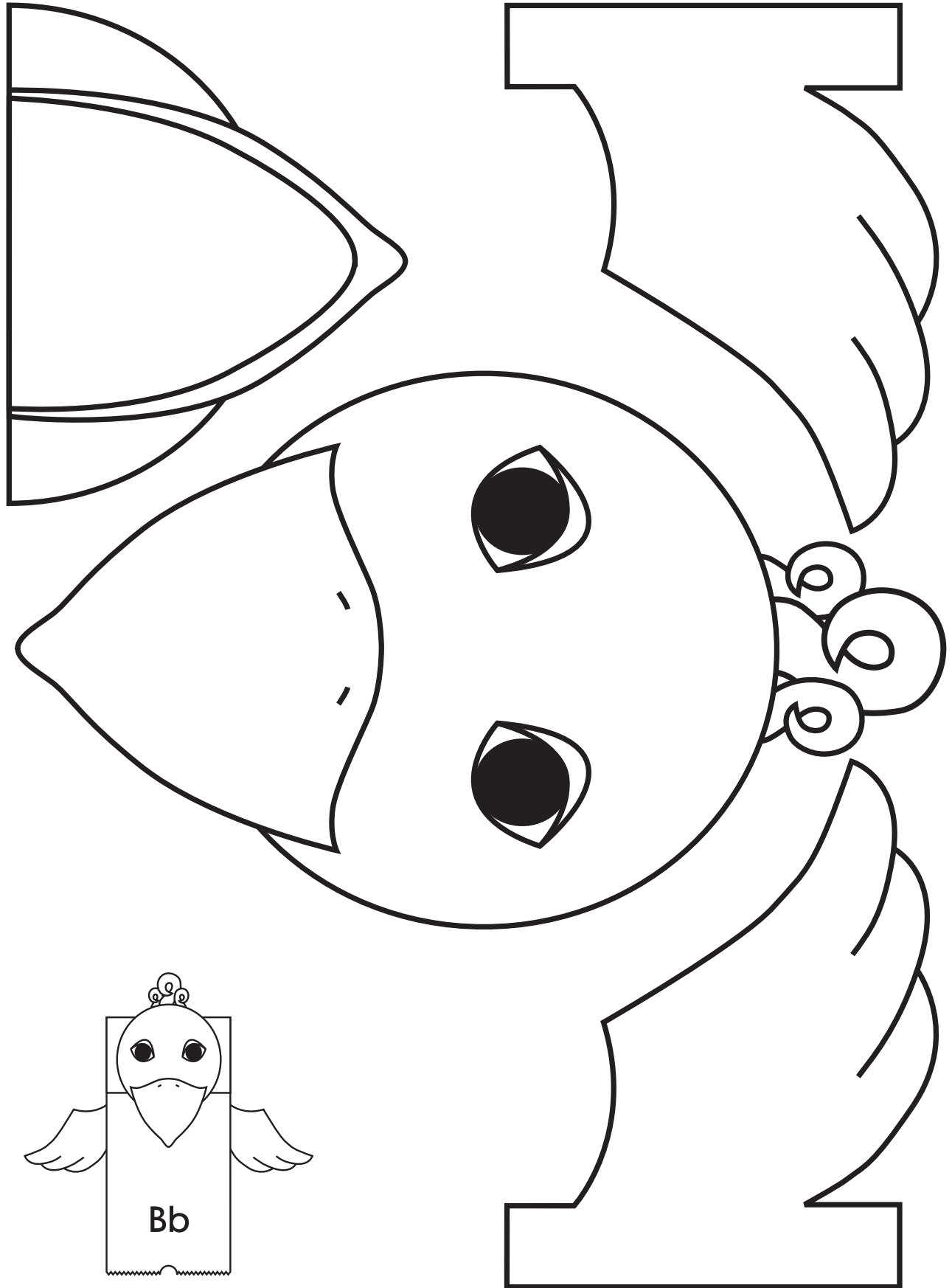
- *Bonnie Bluebird puppet (see p. 2)*
- *Paper eggs*
- *Paper nests (two to three)*

Have students play another letter sort activity in which the words, numbers, and letters are on paper eggs. Students must sort the eggs into one of Bonnie Bluebird’s nests.

Making the Puppets

- *Paper lunch sack*
- *Patterns for puppet head, mouth, and arms*
- *Crayons or markers*
- *Scissors*
- *Glue*

Color and cut out the head, mouth, and arms for the puppet. You may wish to copy the patterns onto a heavier paper such as cardstock to make them more durable. Glue the head onto the bottom of the paper sack. Glue the mouth under the head in the fold. Glue the arms or wings on the inside of the side folds so that they come out directly behind the puppet body. Write or glue the puppet letter on the body. If the students are making the puppets, have each student write the letter on his own puppet.



Map Text to Speech 2

Objective: Identify a word and recognize that letters make words, and words make sentences.

Word Perception

Take a walk (inside or outside the school) or look around the classroom and point out words in print (e.g., in books, on walls, on street signs).

Word Walk

- *Index cards*
- *Marker*
- *Masking tape*
- *Music*

Write a letter, number, or word on separate index cards. Tape the cards to the floor in the shape of a circle. Have students walk around the circle as music plays. When the music stops, students must stop and decide whether or not they are standing on a word.

Favorite Words

- *Magnetic letters*

Have students think of their favorite words or words from a story you have just read. Then let them create those words using magnetic letters. If you choose, as they create words, write each word on the board, and then discuss the list when all students have had a turn.

Note: You could also write the words on a large piece of paper and then place the list in the writing center for future reference.

Letter Puppet Activity

- Cal the Cook puppet
- Index cards
- Marker
- No-bake cookie recipe and ingredients
- Cups or containers (for measured ingredients)

Make no-bake cookies with Cal the Cook. Measure all ingredients beforehand, place each ingredient in a container, and write the name of the ingredient on its container. On other containers, write letters or numbers. As Cal makes the cookies, students can help him by deciding which containers are labeled with words.

Making the Puppets

- *Paper lunch sack*
- *Patterns for puppet head, mouth, and arms*
- *Crayons or markers*
- *Scissors*
- *Glue*

Color and cut out the head, mouth, and arms for the puppet. You may wish to copy the patterns onto a heavier paper such as cardstock to make them more durable. Glue the head onto the bottom of the paper sack. Glue the mouth under the head in the fold. Glue the arms or wings on the inside of the side folds so that they come out directly behind the puppet body. Write or glue the puppet letter on the body. If the students are making the puppets, have each student write the letter on his own puppet.

