

Understand that words are separated by spaces in print.

Print Concepts

Objective: Understand that written words are read from left to right, one after another, and that the spaces between them show when a word ends and another begins.

Sentence Practice

Have students complete sentences such as “I can . . .” or “I like . . .” or “I want . . .” Read the sentences aloud, assisted by students. Point out that the words are read from left to right and are separated by spaces.

Mixed-up Words

- *Paper*
- *Scissors*
- *Quick as a Cricket by Don and Audrey Wood*

Have students dictate sentences as you write the words on a word strip for all to see. Cut up the sentence or sentences into individual words and arrange the words in an unnatural order (right to left, sideways, or spread out on the wall or floor). Read the sentences, pretending to be mixed up or confused. Ask students to help you put the words in the correct sequence. For variety, instead of having students dictate sentences, use a simple story, such as *Quick as a Cricket* by Don and Audrey Wood.

Letter Puppet Activity

- *Ed the Elephant puppet (see p. 2)*
- *Chalkboard and chalk*

Write the words to the song below on the board. Have Ed the Elephant sing the words to the tune of “Where Is Thumbkin?” Before he sings, point out that he is going to sing the words one after another and that students can follow along as Ed points.

I am Ed.
I am Ed.
Watch me read.
Watch me dance.
I am good at singing.
I am good at reading.
Watch me jump.
Watch me sleep.

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.

