

Monkey Matching Letter Puzzles

This Really Good Stuff® product includes:

- 26 Monkey Puzzle Frames
- 104 Monkey Arms and Legs Puzzle Pieces
- Storage Box
- This Really Good Stuff® Instructional Guide

Monkey Matching Letter Puzzles is an interactive, self-checking monkey puzzle set that is the perfect venue for students to practice foundational literacy skills.

Preparing the Monkey Matching Letter Puzzles

Before introducing the Monkey Matching Letter Puzzles, make copies of this Really Good Stuff® Instructional Guide and file for future use. Or, download another copy from our website at reallygoodstuff.com. Before student use, you may need to mix up the puzzle pieces. Display the puzzles where students can interact with them easily. Store the pieces in the box when not in use.

Introducing the Monkey Matching Letter Puzzles

Gather students in a common area where they can see the puzzle pieces and puzzle frames. Explain to students that they will be building a monkey by attaching two arms and two legs to the body. Show students how to find the matching pieces by looking at the picture and reading the letters. Explain to students that the letters will be represented in different ways, and will be shown in different fonts, both uppercase and lowercase. Also explain to students that they will be matching letters to the body of the monkey that displays a picture. The beginning sound of the picture tells you the letters to match. For example, the monkey with an apple as the picture needs the matching pieces with letter A. Show students how to take the puzzle pieces out of the box, laying out all of the monkey body pieces and frames first, then searching for the matching arms and legs second. The monkeys are color-coded to minimize the field of items students need to search through to find a matching piece. Once a puzzle is completed, students can self-check their work by looking to see if the color on the back of the puzzle pieces match.

Differentiation

You can differentiate this activity in many ways. To make this activity easier for students, set out only a few letter frames for students to find pieces for. You can also remove puzzle pieces for the letters you aren't working with. You might choose to highlight the fact that the monkeys are color-coded. For example, the blue monkey will have blue arms and blue legs attached. Lastly, show students the self-checking colors on the back of puzzle pieces to aid them through their work.

In order to make this activity more challenging for students, omit telling them about the color-coded body parts or self-checking feature. Ask the students to match puzzle pieces for all the letters of the alphabet at once.