

## Build Essential Phonics Skills

Help children construct knowledge about letter sound/symbol relationships. Invite them to listen for initial consonants with riddles from *Which Letter?* (40) Focus your lesson on hearing initial consonant sounds.

### Which Letter?

This letter of the alphabet  
is in some messy words you know,  
like *mucky, muddy, mopping, milk*.  
Now write some other words below!

**Answer: Mm**

★ Invite children to think of other words that begin with the same sound by asking, *What first sound does this group of words share?*

★ Brainstorm more words that begin with the same sound. Write the words students generate on chart paper, creating a word bank of Mm words. As you encounter more Mm words in literature, add those to your list!

• **Variation:** Encourage children to use words from the Mm word bank to compose stories. Each time a word in their stories begins with Mm, have your students underline it. Invite students to read their stories from your classroom's author chair. Celebrate literacy at every turn!



## Let's Practice!

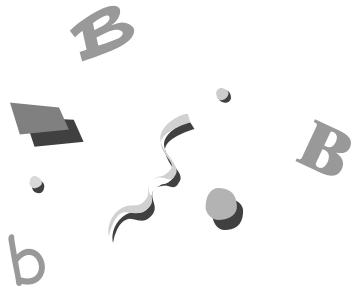
The same initial sound appears in *messy, mucky, muddy, mopping, and milk*.

★ Read the poem together. Tell your students, *Say the sound your ears hear the most.*

# Which Letter?

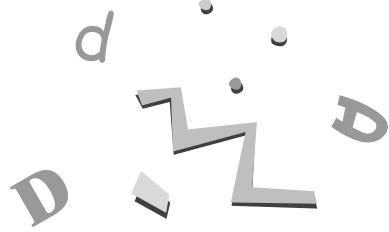
This letter of the alphabet  
is in some awesome words you know,  
like alligator, ant, afraid.  
Now write some other words below!

Answer: Aa



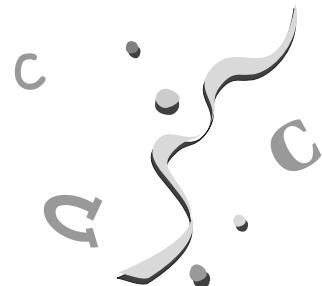
This letter of the alphabet  
is in some cool words you know,  
like cactus, cake, and cottontail.  
Now write some other words below!

Answer: Bb



This letter of the alphabet  
is in some beautiful words you know,  
like bubble, bunny, butterfly.  
Now write some other words below!

Answer: Cc



This letter of the alphabet  
is in some dandy words you know,  
like dolphin, duck, and dinosaur.  
Now write some other words below!

Answer: Dd