Interactive Notebooks

LANGUAGE ARTS

Interactive notebooks are an engaging new way to teach and reinforce effective note taking in a creative and personalized way. Students are able to take an active role in their learning as they create fun, interactive notebook pages for each new language arts topic. Students will learn organization, color-coding, summarizing, and other useful skills while creating portfolios of individual learning that they will refer back to all year long. This book will guide you through setting up, creating, and maintaining interactive notebooks throughout the year. It is an invaluable resource for anyone who wants to begin using this effective tool for skill retention in the classroom.

Look for these and other great Carson-Dellosa titles to support standards-based instruction in the classroom.

- Interactive Notebooks Math Kindergarten CD-104645
- Applying the Standards Evidence-Based Reading Kindergarten CD-104829
- Applying the Standards Evidence-Based Writing Kindergarten CD-104823

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Uppercase Letters: A-Z

This lesson is designed to introduce one or more letters at a time and can be taught over several days. The letters can be glued onto several pages of the notebook.

Introduction

Display or write the uppercase letter A on the board. Introduce students to the letter's sound by singing a song or reading a poem that repeats the sound. Ask students to provide examples of words that begin with the letter. Demonstrate how to properly write the uppercase letter. Repeat the activity with each letter of the alphabet.

Creating the Notebook Page

Guide students through the following steps to complete the right-hand page in their notebooks.

1. Add a Table of Contents entry for the Uppercase Letters: A–Z pages.
2. Cut out the title and glue it to the top of the page.
3. Trace each letter using your finger. Then, trace each letter with a pencil.
4. Cut out each letter and glue it to the left side of the page.
5. Practice writing each letter several times. Then, draw a picture of something that starts with each letter.

Reflect on Learning

To complete the left-hand page, students should write the letter or letters that were introduced in the lesson along the left side of the page. Provide students with magazines and newspapers. Have students find and cut out examples of the letter or letters and glue the examples beside the correct letters.
Uppercase Letters: A-Z
Lowercase Letters: a–z

This lesson is designed to introduce one or more letters at a time and can be taught over several days. The letters can be glued onto several pages of the notebook.

Introduction

Display or write the lowercase letter a on the board. Introduce students to the letter’s sound by singing a song or reading a poem that repeats the sound. Ask students to provide examples of words that begin with the letter. Demonstrate how to properly write the lowercase letter. Repeat the activity with each letter of the alphabet.

Creating the Notebook Page

Guide students through the following steps to complete the right-hand page in their notebooks.

1. Add a Table of Contents entry for the Lowercase Letters a–z pages.
2. Cut out the title and glue it to the top of the page.
3. Trace each letter using your finger. Then, trace each letter with a pencil.
4. Cut out each letter and glue it to the left side of the page.
5. Practice writing each letter several times. Then, draw a picture of an object that begins with each letter.

Reflect on Learning

To complete the left-hand page, students should write the letter or letters that were introduced in the lesson along the left side of the page. Provide students with magazines and newspapers. Have students find and cut out examples of the letter or letters and glue the examples beside the correct letters.
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**Lowercase Letters: a-z**
Matching Uppercase and Lowercase Letters

Introduction

For each letter, review the sound or sounds that the letter makes. Ask students to read around the classroom and provide examples with words that contain the letter. Write or display the uppercase letter. Then, write or display the lowercase letter beside it. Compare the uppercase letter with the lowercase letter. Encourage students to find similarities and differences between the letters.

Creating the Notebook Page

Guide students through the following steps to complete the right-hand page in their notebooks.

1. Add a Table of Contents entry for the Matching Uppercase and Lowercase Letters pages.
2. Cut out the title and glue it to the top of the page.
3. Cut out the flap book. Cut on the solid lines to create three flaps. Apply glue to the back of the left section and attach it to the page.
4. On each flap, draw a line to match each uppercase letter to the correct lowercase letter.
5. Practice writing the uppercase and lowercase letters under each flap.

Reflect on Learning

To complete the left-hand page, students should choose five uppercase letters. Students should use markers to write them along the left side of the page. Using a different color, they should write the matching lowercase letters along the right side of the page.
Matching Uppercase and Lowercase Letters

I know my uppercase and lowercase letters!

A B C D E F G H I

d b a c e f h g i

J K L M N O P Q R

l j k n m p r o q n

S T U V W X Y Z

z y x w u v s t

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Vowel Sounds: Short a

Introduction

Review the short a sound. Write the words cat, hut, rat, sat, and rip on the board. Say the words aloud. Ask students if they hear the same vowel sound in each word. Have volunteers come to the board and circle the words that have the short a sound and cross off the words that do not have the short a sound.

Creating the Notebook Page

Guide students through the following steps to complete the right-hand page in their notebooks.

1. Add a Table of Contents entry for the Vowel Sounds: Short a pages.
2. Cut out the title and glue it to the top of the page.
3. Cut out the two pockets and apply glue to the gray glue sections. Flip the pockets over and attach them to the top half of the page.
4. Label the first pocket Short a. Label the second pocket Not Short a.
5. Cut out the picture cards. Say and write the word for the picture on each card.
6. Sort each card into the correct pocket.
7. Turn to a partner and share how you sorted the cards.
8. Create a T-chart labeled Short a and Not Short a on the bottom of the page. Write or draw at least two more words on each side of the T-chart.

Reflect on Learning

To complete the left-hand page, have students choose two cards from the Short a pocket. Students should write several words that rhyme with each card.
Vowel Sounds: Short e

Students will need a sharpened pencil and a paper clip to complete the spinner activity.

Introduction

Review the short e sound. Read a poem or a short story that repeats words that have the short e sound. Have students to share short e words they heard in the poem or story. Write the words on the board. Have volunteers come to the board, say the words, and circle the short e sound in each word.

Creating the Notebook Page

Guide students through the following steps to complete the right-hand page in their notebooks.

1. Add a Table of Contents entry for the Vowel Sounds: Short e pages.
2. Cut out the title and glue it to the top of the page.
3. Cut out the spinner and glue it to the top left side of the page. Then, cut out the notepad and glue it beside the spinner.
4. Use a sharpened pencil and a paper clip to spin the spinner. If the spinner lands on a short e word, write the word on the notepad. Spin until the notepad is filled with four short e words.
5. Cut out the short e flap book. Cut on the solid lines to create two flaps on each side. Apply glue to the back of the title section and attach it to the bottom of the page.
6. Write a short e word on each flap. Highlight the short e sound.
7. Draw a picture for the word under each flap.

Reflect on Learning

To complete the left-hand page, each student should draw a five-circle bubble map with the middle circle labeled short e. Students should write or draw one short e word in each of the other circles.
Vowel Sounds: Short e