

BEADS

Beginning Early and Developing Strong

Activities

SPRING/SUMMER



BEADS

Spring/Summer Activity Pack

BEADS (Beginning Early and Developing Strong) is a Treaty Education Alliance developed sight word program that encourages the teaching of sight words from the age of 4. These words are high frequency words that show up most often in our written language. They do not always fit phonetic patterns and are not always easily “sounded out.”

This resource is developed to provide ideas for teachers and families to support children in the learning of their sight words. The way the program is designed, children will start with the RED BEADS cards and move through the colours (RED, ORANGE, YELLOW, GREEN, BLUE) as they learn to identify the words. The goal is for the children to be able to identify the words by sight, quickly and independently, in a variety of contexts.

When choosing words to use in the activities, do not feel that you need to use all the words on your current list. Choose 5-10 words to focus on, with some being unknown words to the child and some being words that the child already knows. This keeps the activities challenging and still provides the opportunity to be successful and practice previously learned words. As the child masters a word, you can remove it from play and insert a new and challenging word.

All the activities in the Spring/Summer Activity Pack are designed to be played outdoors with minimal materials and no need for expensive resources.

A fun way to track progress can be found at the end of this resource.

You can find more BEADS resources online at educationalliance.ca.



**Red BEADS
Words**

a
and
away
big
blue
can
come
down
find
for
funny
go
help
here
I
in
is
it
jump
little
look
make
me
my
not
one
play
red
run
said
see
the
three
to
two
up
we
yellow
you
where

**Orange BEADS
Words**

all
am
are
at
ate
be
black
brown
but
came
did
do
eat
four
get
good
have
he
into
like
must
new
no
now
on
our
out
please
pretty
ran
ride
saw
say
she
so
soon
that
there
they
this
too
under
want
was
well
went
what
white
who
will
with
yes

**Yellow BEADS
Words**

after
again
an
any
as
ask
by
could
every
fly
from
give
going
had
has
her
him
his
how
just
know
live
may
of
old
once
open
over
put
round
some
stop
take
thank
them
then
think
walk
were
when
let

**Green BEADS
Words**

always
around
because
been
before
best
both
buy
call
cold
does
don't
fast
first
five
found
gave
goes
green
it's
made
many
off
or
pull
read
right
sing
sit
sleep
tell
their
these
those
upon
us
use
very
wash
which
why
wish
work
would
write
your

**Blue BEADS
Words**

about
baby
better
book
boy
bring
carry
clean
cut
done
draw
drink
eight
fall
far
full
got
grow
hold
hot
hurt
if
keep
kind
laugh
light
long
much
myself
name
never
only
orange
own
pick
purple
seven
shall
show
six
small
start
ten
today
together
try
warm
water





Puddle Jumping

Materials: construction paper, dark marker, tape

1. Find some blue construction paper and cut out the shapes of puddles (approx. 10)
2. Write the BEADS words on the puddles with the dark marker.
3. Lay the paper puddles out on the floor and use the tape to secure them.
4. Call out a word and have the child jump on the puddles that you call out.

Modifications:

- Think of a word that rhymes with the chosen word
- Spell the word once found
- Use the word in a sentence
- Draw the puddles and words with sidewalk chalk outside

Materials: paper, watered down paint, crayons

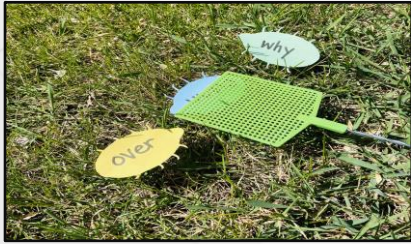
1. Write BEADS words on the piece of paper using the crayons (press hard).
2. Use the watered-down paint to paint over the crayon.
3. Watch the words appear from under the paint!

Modifications:

- Write the words in white crayon so that the words 'magically' appear
- Think of creative/artistic ways to write the word
- Make rainbow coloured words
- Write a sentence and draw a picture to go with the word in white crayon and give to somebody as a secret message

Watercolour Words





Fly Swatter Smash

Materials: construction paper, dark marker, fly swatters (1 per player)

1. Cut some bug shapes out of the construction paper (keep them about 3"x3" in size).
2. Write the BEADS words on the bug shapes.
3. Have all players sit in a circle and place the words in the center, face up. One person can play by themselves, but they will still need a caller for the words.
4. Start with the fly swatter on their lap, the caller then calls out a word. The first person to 'smash' the bug with the swatter gets to keep that word.
5. Play until all the words are gone.
6. The winner becomes the next caller.

Modifications:

- Call out a word that rhymes with the card to be 'smashed'

Materials: balloon, marker

1. Write 5 or 6 different words on different areas around the balloon.
2. Toss the balloon in the air.
3. Have the child read out the word that is facing them when they catch it.

Modifications:

- Read the word and spell it
- Think of a word that rhymes
- Spell the word
- Play with 2 balloons and use both words in the same sentence

Balloon Toss





How Fast Can You Go?

Materials: sidewalk chalk, paper/cue cards, marker, timer

1. Write BEADS words on cue cards or pieces of paper (approx. 10)
2. Write the same BEADS words (plus maybe a few more) with sidewalk chalk on the ground outside. Circle each word.
3. Draw a start line off to one side and lay all the BEADS word cards on the ground behind the start line.
4. The player picks up a card, reads it and then runs to place it within the circle with the same word on the ground. They then run back to the start line to pick up another word. Play continues until all the words are placed in the correct spot.
5. Use a timer and see if the player can beat their time.
6. Challenge somebody to do it faster.

Materials: large paper, marker, sticky notes

1. Pick some BEADS words and write them on the large paper without the vowels. Write large enough and leave enough space for the sticky notes to go where the vowels belong.
2. Write vowels on sticky notes. One vowel per sticky note. Make several sticky notes with each vowel.
3. Have the child place the sticky note within each word to make a word.
4. Have them read the word they created.

Modifications:

- See how many different words they can create by using different vowels (e.g. pan, pin, pen, pun).

What's Missing?





Paint with Water

Materials: water, paint brush, container, rocks/cement/fence

1. Fill a container with water and use a paint brush to paint the BEADS words on a surface that changes colour when wet. This could be something like a wooden fence, rocks, or the sidewalk. As the water dries, the words will disappear.

Modifications:

- See if you can sort the words as you write them (e.g. words with an 'a')
- Tape the words on the fence and use the water to paint them
- Write the words in chalk first and then paint over them with water to erase them

Materials: rocks, paint/marker

1. Clean and dry your rocks.
2. Use paint and/or marker to write the BEADS words on the rocks.
3. Use them for outdoor play.

Suggested Ideas:

- Play tic-tac-toe
- Pick a rock from the pile, say/spell the word
- Create some rocks with names on them and use them to make sentences (e.g. Joey can run fast)
- Collect rocks on daily walks to add to the BEADS rock pile
- Use them in the sand box and/or for play the toy trucks

Rock Play





Pebble Letters

Materials: rocks, paint/marker

1. Clean and dry your rocks.
2. Use paint and/or marker to write letters on them. You could create rocks with all the letters of the alphabet, plus some extras with the most common letters.
3. Use the rocks to spell BEADS words.

Modifications:

- Call out a word and recreate it with rocks
- Write the word on a piece of paper and then practice spelling the words using the rocks
- Use the rocks to create words and then sentences
- Use the rocks to practice letter sounds/knowledge

Materials: paper, marker, bases

1. Write BEADS words on pieces of paper large enough to read from a few feet away.
2. Set up the bases in a space that can either be indoors or outdoors.
3. The pitcher holds up the paper with the word and flashes it to the baseball player.
4. The 'batter' reads the word. If correct, they run to first base. If incorrect, they are out.
5. The next player up to base, does the same.

Modifications:

- Hold up different words based on the skill of the batter
- Have the batter spell the word or say a rhyming word
- Use the word in a sentence

Baseball





Twig Letters

Materials: twigs or small branches, wool or string

1. Find small twigs or branches that are already shaped like letters or that can be put together to form letters of the alphabet.
2. Use the string to tie the twigs together to create a letter.
3. Wrap the letters with the string from top to bottom.
4. Use the letters you created to spell BEADS words.

Modifications:

- Glue the sticks together where needed
- Pick a letter and think of as many BEADS words as you can that start with that letter

Materials: an outdoor space, a friend to play with

1. Go outside and look around. How many items (e.g. trees, branches, rocks, toys, etc.) can you see that look like letters of the alphabet?
2. Play a game of I-Spy:
“I-Spy the letter H”.
3. Have your friend see if they can find same letter that you found.

Modifications:

- Spot a letter and then think of a word that begins or ends with that letter
- Find a letter and then make up a sentence that only has words starting with that letter (e.g. Sam saw silly shoes at the store Saturday).

I-Spy





Mud Fun

Materials: mud, sticks

1. Go outside and find some mud that is good for drawing in.
2. Pick out a stick that would be good to draw with.
3. Choose a BEADS word and write it in the mud.

Modifications:

- Write a complete sentence in the mud
- Draw a picture to go with your word/sentence
- Use sticks/leaves/pebbles to outline or fill in the word that you wrote
- Write the word in cursive
- Write a sentence in the mud with a word missing. Use rocks/leaves/sticks to create a word to fill in the blank

Materials: paper plates, marker, a large outdoor space

1. Pick 6 to 8 BEADS words and write each word twice on different paper plates.
2. Spread the paper plates out on the lawn or in a large space outdoors. Allow some room for movement between the plates.
3. Flip over a plate, read the word and then try and find the matching word by flipping over another plate.
4. If the 2 plates match, set them aside or leave them face-up.
5. Continue play until all the plates are matched.

Modifications:

- Play with letters instead of words - identify the letter, letter sound and a word that starts with that letter

Paper Plate Match





Soccer

Materials: stiff paper, marker, tape, cones/place holders

1. Write the BEADS words on stiff paper (or laminate them)
2. Tape the words to the cones (1 per cone).
3. Line the cones up. A caller will call out a word and the player will kick the ball at the cone with the chosen word.

Modifications:

- Line the cones up and have the player kick the ball in and out of the cones, calling each of the words out as they go. If they get one wrong, they start over. Try this in both directions.

Materials: paper, marker, large ball, wall, tape

1. Write the BEADS words on pieces of paper and randomly tape them to the outside wall of your house/fence, leaving approx. 1 foot of space between the words.
2. The player stands in front of the wall holding the ball.
3. The caller calls out a word and the player tries to bounce the ball off that word on the wall.

Modifications:

- Call out a word that rhymes with the word on the wall
- Challenge the player to find different words based on different descriptions:
 - Find 3 words with 3 syllables (or two syllables, etc.)
 - Find a word with 4 letters but only 3 sounds (e.g. them), or 3 letters but only 2 sounds (e.g. are)

Ball Bounce





Scavenger Hunt

Materials: paper, marker, sidewalk chalk

1. Write the BEADS words on pieces of paper.
2. Go outside with the sidewalk chalk and write the same words in different places around your yard.
3. Have your child go outside and find the words in the yard that match the words on the papers.

Modifications:

- Play with letters of the alphabet
- Give clues on the papers "Find a 4-letter word starting with b"
- Hide words around the yard for children to find and then come back to a central spot to place them in a pre-written sentence missing a word (e.g. "The ____ dog ran fast.")

Materials: sidewalk chalk

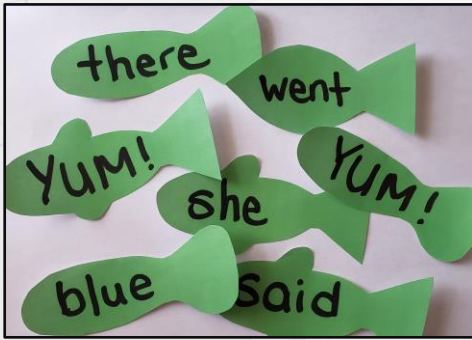
1. Make a hopscotch game board on a cement pad with some sidewalk chalk.
2. Write a BEADS word in each square with the chalk.
3. Throw a rock into the first game space. Hop over to it on one foot, pick it up and return to the start.
4. Then throw the rock into the second space and follow the same procedure.
5. Call out each word as you land on it.

Modifications:

- Spell the words
- Sing the spelling of the words to the tune of B-I-N-G-O
- Use the words in a sentence as you read them out loud

Hopscotch





Fishing for Words

Materials: construction paper, dark marker, bag/bowl

1. Find some colour construction paper and cut out different fish.
2. Write the BEADS words on the fish with the dark marker.
3. Create 3 sharks that say YUM on them.
4. Put all the fish cards and sharks into a bag.
5. Pull out fish from the bag, keep it if you can read the word. Throw it back in the bag if you don't know it.
6. If you pull a shark, it eats all the fish you have and they must go back in the bag and it's the next persons turn.

Modifications:

- Put magnets on the words and create a fishing rod with a paperclip on the end. The magnet and the paperclip will pick up the fish.

Materials: sticks/rocks/construction paper, marker

1. Find a at least 20 sticks or rocks that are wide enough to write words on. Draw a line through the middle of the rock/stick. Write a BEADS word on the top and another on the bottom.
2. Use as many words as you like but make sure to repeat the words at least twice on different dominoes.
3. Lay all the pieces between the players face down and pick 5.
4. Player 1 will choose a domino and lay it down.
5. Player 2 matches one of their dominoes that has the same word as the one on the table, if they do not have a match, they must pick up dominoes until one of the words is available to match.
6. The winner is the first player who runs out of dominoes.

Modifications:

- Use letters

Dominoes





Search & Identify

Materials: construction paper, rocks/sticks, dark marker, tape, chalk

1. Write some BEADS words on pieces of paper.
2. Write the identical words on different items around your yard. You can write words on rocks or sticks or use chalk to write on your fence or sidewalk. You can also just write the words on paper again. Hide these words around your yard.

Modifications:

- Think of a word that rhymes with the chosen word
- Spell the word once found
- Use the word in a sentence

Materials: 6-10 water/pop bottles, ball, water, marker, paper, tape

1. Write BEADS words directly on the bottles or write the words on paper and tape them onto the bottles.
2. Fill the bottles with water (so they don't tip easily)
3. Put the bottles together in a bowling pin formation (triangle). This could be on a hard surface or on grass.
4. Pick a starting spot and kick or roll the ball towards the bottles and try to knock them over.
5. Read out each word that you knocked down.

Modifications:

- In order to get points you need to read/spell the words correctly
- Use the words in sentences in order to keep your points

Bowling



Tracking Progress

Use a pipe cleaner or shoelace to string pony beads to represent each word the child learns. If the child is working on red words, they would string a red bead for each word that they are able to recognize independently in a variety of contexts.

As they learn more words, their string would become longer and more colourful. These strings can then be used for other projects to represent their learning progress.





TREATY

EDUCATION ALLIANCE

educationalliance.ca