A SPARKATLAS PACK FOR LITTLE EXPLORERS

The Letter A Pack

A is hiding in roofs, tents and ladders. Find it, trace it, build it.



INSIDE THIS PACK

02 Grown-up guide: one minute to read
03 My giant A to trace and decorate
04 A is hiding outside: a shape hunt
05 Trace A and a, then build one
06 A or T? A first-sound sort

YOU'LL NEED

- a crayon or pencil
- 3 sticks from a walk
- a few leaves or pebbles

TIME

About 10 minutes a page

Our A hunt

Date _____ Where we found an A _____

Today's weather · Circle one ◯ sunny ◯ cloudy ◯ rainy ◯ windy

AGES Sprout 2–3 Seedling 3–5 Sapling 5–7 Each activity page shows its band.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Letters stick when a child can hear them, move them and find them in the world. Here A is a sound to say, a shape to make with sticks, and a pointy roof down the street, so reading starts long before the page does.

Before You Start

A one-minute read for grown-ups.

How to use it (about 10 minutes a page)

1. **Say the sound first.**
   A short, quick "a", as in ant and apple. In English, A can also say its name, as in acorn.
2. **Start big.**
   Trace the giant A with a whole finger before any crayon comes out.
3. **Take it outside.**
   Hunt for A shapes on a walk: roofs, tents, ladders, swings.
4. **Build, then sort.**
   Make an A from sticks, then play the A or T sound sort.

Three ways to play

Sprout 2–3

Trace the giant A with a finger and line pebbles or leaves along it. Point at A shapes outside.

Seedling 3–5

Hunt for A shapes, trace the dashed letters and listen for the first sound of each picture.

Sapling 5–7

Write A and a on their own, sort the pictures by first sound and think of more A words.

Little safety notes

Walk, don't run, with sticks, and carry them pointing down. Keep pebbles and small finds out of mouths, and wash hands after collecting.

Printing tips

Page 1 is the cover. To save ink, print pages 2 to 6 only. Every page works in black and white, on Letter or A4.

Wonder out loud together

- Can you make an A with your arms and legs?
- Whose name do we know that starts with A?
- Why do you think so many roofs are pointy?
- What else is shaped like a tent?

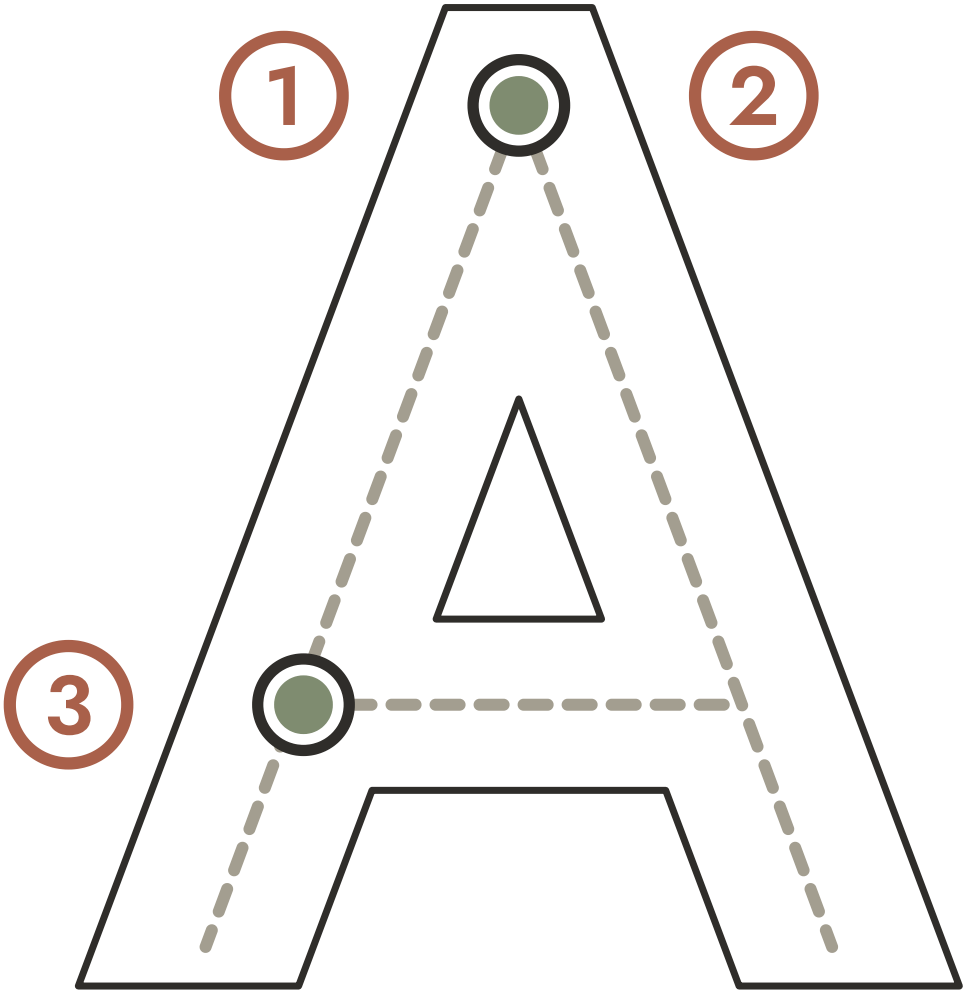
FOR GROWN-UPS

Keep it light. One page a day is plenty, and stopping while your child still wants more makes tomorrow easy. Whose name starts with A is often the most exciting question of all.

My Giant A

Trace it with a finger, then make it beautiful.

Start at the dot with the ring. Follow the lines in order: 1, 2, 3.



I made my A with


crayon dots ☐


leaves ☐


pebbles ☐


my own idea ☐

FOR GROWN-UPS

Say "a, a, a" each time a finger slides down a line. Big movements plus the sound help the letter stick.

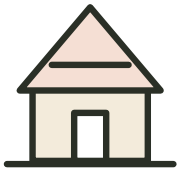
PLAY IT YOUR WAY

Easier: Drive a toy car down each line, or lay pebbles along it.
Stretch: Draw tiny things that start with A inside the letter.

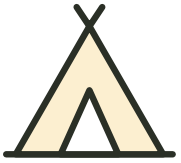
A Is Hiding Outside

Look for two slanted sides that meet at the top.

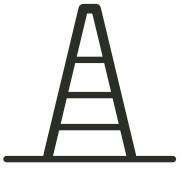
Tick the box when you find each A shape.



a pointy roof ☐



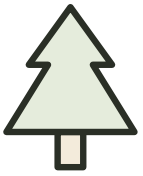
a tent ☐



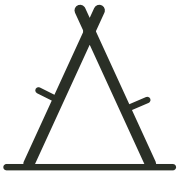
a stepladder ☐



a swing frame ☐



a pine tree ☐



two leaning sticks ☐

Our surprise A

Where else did you spot an A? Draw it here.

FOR GROWN-UPS

Make a point with two fingers to show the shape, then look together. Spotting a letter in the world is a big step towards reading.

PLAY IT YOUR WAY

Easier: Hunt for just one or two shapes, like the roof and the tent.

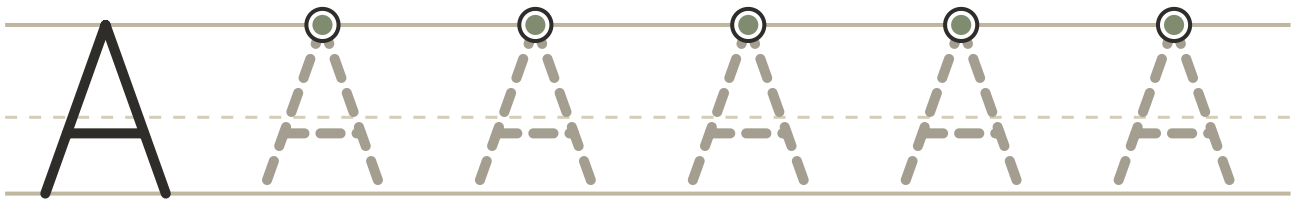
Stretch: Which A shapes have a line across the middle? Look closely.

Trace A and a

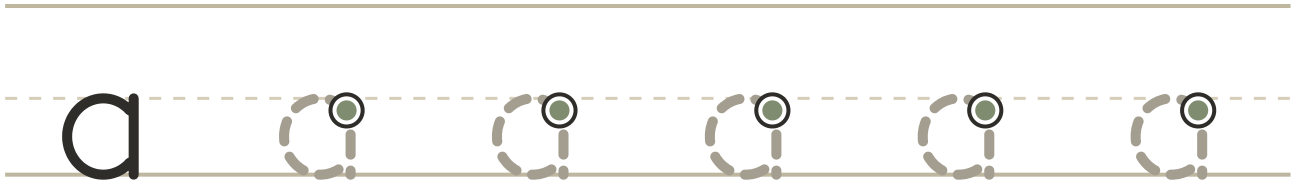
A big A and a little a make the same sound.

Start at the dot with the ring and follow the dashes.

Big A: down, down, across



Little a: round, then down



Your turn: write them on your own

A a



Build an A with sticks

Find 3 sticks. Lean 2 together like a roof, then lay 1 across the middle.

What other letters can you make with 2 sticks?

☐

FOR GROWN-UPS

Say the sound as you trace. The two shapes look different, but they both say "a".

PLAY IT YOUR WAY

Easier: Trace just the first A, with a finger, then a crayon. Build the stick A together.

Stretch: Write the first letter of everyone's name in your family.

A or T? Sound Sort

Listen for the very first sound.

Say each name slowly. Circle A or T.

Then find one real A thing and one real T thing at home and draw them below.



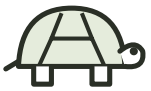
tent

A T



apple

A T



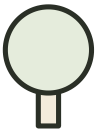
turtle

A T



ant

A T



tree

A T



anchor

A T

A One more A thing

T One more T thing

FOR GROWN-UPS

Stretch the first sound: "a-a-ant", "t-t-tent". Hearing first sounds comes before reading letters.

PLAY IT YOUR WAY

Easier: Do two pictures, one A and one T, and say them together.

Stretch: Find a word that starts with A and ends with T, like "ant".