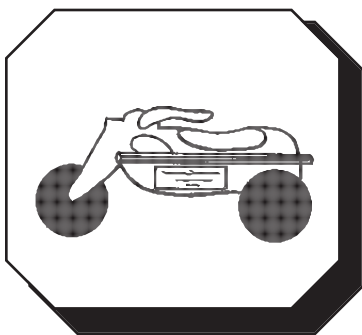


<p>mustache - Purchase some play mustaches at your local carnival or party store, and put them in your Magic Letter Box. Let the children have fun pretending with their mustaches. Encourage them to talk about their dads, grandpas, or other persons they know who have mustaches. Try to find magazine pictures of various kinds of mustaches.</p>	<p>money - Put a variety of kinds of real money in your Magic Letter Box. Encourage the children to examine the various coins and bills, and to sort them into sets of coins or bills that are the same. Identify the coins by name so that the children begin to learn to recognize the names of the various coins.</p>	<p>markers - Put a variety of markers of different widths and colors in your Magic Letter Box. Then encourage the children to experiment with them. Visit your local stationery or art store to find as wide a variety as possible. Try to include some fluorescent markers and some multi-racial markers, too.</p>
<p>muffin liners - Put a box of paper muffin liners in your Magic Letter Box. Then encourage the children to sort them according to color. Suggest that the children use the muffin liners to create an art project of their own design.</p>	<p>music - Put samples of a variety of kinds of recorded music in your Magic Letter Box. Try to include music with different tempos, as well as music played on a variety of instruments. Encourage the children to listen to the sounds that the music makes and to talk about the kinds that they like best. Also talk about the moods which various kinds of music create.</p>	<p>magazine - Put a variety of magazines in your Magic Letter Box. Encourage the children to page through them and try to decide who might enjoy reading them, and what each magazine is about. Try to have magazines with pictures. Suggestions might be <u>Ranger Rick</u>, a cooking magazine, a sports magazine, a sewing magazine, etc.</p>

Food Suggestions For M - meat, meatballs, macaroni, mozzarella cheese, milk, meatloaf, muffins, mushrooms, mashed potatoes, margarine, melons, mayo, and mandarin oranges.



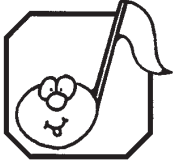
Select From These Activities For Today's Program:

- ◆ **Introduce Letter M**
- ◆ * **Song** - "A Is For Alligator"
- ◆ * **Activity Page** - "M Is For Motorcycle"
- ◆ * **Alphabet Bookmobile** - "Add A Book For M"
- ◆ **Large Muscles** - "Move To The M"
- ◆ **Fine Motor Skills** - "Mixing Munchies"
- ◆ **Science** - "Magnet Magic"
- ◆ * **Enrichment** - "A Motorcycle For M"

INTRODUCE LETTER M

Use **large upper and lower case letters** to help introduce letter M. Compare the upper case M and the lower case m. Talk about the fact that the upper case M has sharp corners and that the lower case m has curves. Look for letter M's in **magazine or newspaper ads**. Perhaps you could make a collage of letter M's cut

from advertisements. It could be a very colorful and interesting collage if you utilize a variety of kinds, sizes, and colors of print. Just let the children tear or cut around the M's, or make it a "work together" project in which all of the children find the letters in magazines or papers, and you and the older children do the cutting.



*SONG

"A Is For Alligator"

(Large or Small Group)

Teach your children the verse for letter M. You'll find the song on this month's Sing-A-Long Tape, and with this month's sheet music.



*ACTIVITY PAGE

"M Is For Motorcycle"

(Learning Center or Small Group)

Use the activity page for today as a follow-up to today's alphabet activities. Encourage the children to use **markers, crayons, or pencils** to trace over the letters at the bottom of the page or on the back of the page, if they wish to do so.



*ALPHABET BOOKMOBILE

"Add A Book For M"

(Take-Home Activity)

Glue the picture to the front of the book for M. Then glue the book beside the book that you made for letter L, on the middle shelf of the Bookmobile.

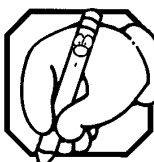


LARGE MUSCLES

"Move To The M"

(Large or Small Group)

Talk about the fact that the word "move" begins with letter M. Then challenge the children to move in as many ways as possible. Hang your **large upper and lower case M's** on the wall across the room, or outside on a fence or tree. Then have the children move in various ways, to the letter M. Some of the ways to try are hopping, running, crawling, skipping, sideways, backwards, slowly, fast, etc.



FINE MOTOR SKILLS

"Mixing Munchies"

(Learning Center or Small Group)

Prepare ahead of time so that each child may have **1 small paper cup of each**

ingredient and then **give each child a small bowl** in which to pour and mix the cups of ingredients. Provide **large wooden or metal spoons** for mixing. Suggestions for ingredients to provide might include **dry cereals, raisins, chocolate or carob chips, small pretzel twists, popcorn, or cups of cut-up pieces of fruit for fruit salad.**



SCIENCE

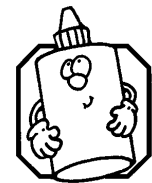
"Magnet Magic"

(Learning Center or Small Group)

Set up a "magnet table" as an area where the children can discover the magic of magnets. Begin by just putting a **magnet** and **one or two metal objects** on the "magnet table." Then, on another day, add some materials that the children can use to try to break the magnetic field, or provide a barrier to it. Include a **small box lid, a plastic lid, a sheet of paper, some cloth, a drinking glass, etc.** Have the children place the magnet in, or on, these materials and then hold the material and magnet over the metal objects to see if they are still attracted to the magnet.

On another day, put each of a **variety of objects on a sheet of paper** on the "magnet table" and encourage the children to discover which objects are attracted to the magnet and which are not. You might want to make a chart with samples of the objects attached. Then encourage the children to mark red X's on the paper under the objects which were attracted to the magnet, and no X's on the paper under the objects which were not attracted to the magnet. Or, simply have the children place the things which were not attracted in a separate box from those that were attracted to the magnet.

NOTE: Magnets are available in most hardware stores, as well as in many toy stores.



*ENRICHMENT

"A Motorcycle For M"

(Learning Center or Small Group)

Follow the instructions to make A Motorcycle For M.