

Onestop Phonics: The letter Zz

by Rachel Finnie

Level: Starter; Starters (Cambridge Young Learner tests)

Target age: 4+

Time needed: 20-30 minutes per letter

Materials: *Phonics podcast* (downloaded from www.onestopenglish.com); character flashcard; copies of worksheets 1 and 2 for each child

The letter Zz

Vocabulary

zebra, zoo, maze

If this vocabulary is new to your learners, it will require pre-teaching. You may like to use onestopenglish flashcards to pre-teach these words. Alternatively, you could use magazine pictures, draw the items on the board or, where possible, use realia.

Procedure

- Start by telling the children that they are going to learn about the letter Z.
- Say Z (as it is said in the alphabet) and then say z (as it is said in *zucchini*). Ask the children to repeat each time.
- If you are using the flashcards, you might like to either hold up the character flashcard for Zelda Zucchini or stick it up on the board where the children can see it. Say the name *Zelda Zucchini* and ask the children to repeat.
- Play the podcast for Z and ask the children to listen carefully.

Transcript:

This letter is called Z

Z Z Z

This letter sounds like:

z z z

z for zucchini

Zelda Zucchini

z z z

Zelda Zucchini

Zelda Zucchini zooms to the zoo

- Say Z, Z, Z (as it is said in the alphabet) and ask the children to repeat.
- Say z, z, z (as it is said in *zucchini*) and ask the children to repeat.

- Write a capital Z on the board.
- Draw the letter in the air with your finger. Ask the children to copy you.
- Repeat with a lower case z.

Hand out Worksheet 1

Ask the children to colour the picture in however they want. As they work, encourage them to repeat the tongue-twister: *Zelda Zucchini zooms to the zoo.*

Hand out Worksheet 2

- Ask the children to trace the capital Z letters. Ask them to say the letter each time they complete it. Monitor their work.
- Ask the children to trace the lower case z letters. Ask them to say the letter each time they complete it. Monitor their work.
- Show the children the maze and explain that the zebra has escaped from the zoo. The children must help the zebra to find its way back to the zoo by following the correct path through the maze.
- When the children have finished doing the activity, hold up the worksheet and point to the pictures one at a time. Each time, say the word and ask the children to repeat.
- If you think the children can do it, repeat the process by pointing to the pictures one at a time and asking the children to say the words.
- End the lesson by holding up the flashcard of Zelda Zucchini and saying *Zelda Zucchini*. Ask the children to repeat.

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YOUNG LEARNERS



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Write. Follow and say.

