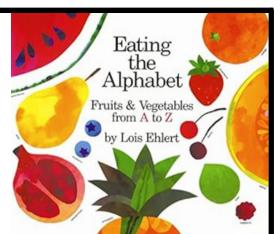
Eating the Alphabet: Fruits and Vegetables from A-Z

By Lois Ehlert



Before Reading: Get Ready

Tell your child what you see on the cover of the book. Then, ask your child what they see on the cover. Read the book's title, author, and illustrator to your child.

Activate comprehension and set a purpose for reading. Today, we are going to read a book about fruits and vegetables that start with each letter of the alphabet! ? Let's read and learn the names of lots of interesting foods.

Are you ready to help me read? Read the letters you know and any of the fruits and vegetables you know! (Note: Encourage your child to "pretend read" the book with you! "Pretend reading" is the first stage of reading and builds your child's language development and early reading skills!).

During Reading: Read Together

Sit side-by-side to share the book, or have your child sit on your lap while you read to them.

Read the book in an excited voice and encourage your child to "read" with you. Touch under each word as you read aloud to help your child match spoken words with print. If your child comments on a page or asks questions about the book, please pause and briefly discuss before returning to reading to help your child engage in the reading.

Before you begin reading, flip through the pages to look at each letter and the pictures on each page. Explain to your child that each page will have a big (or capital or upper-case) letter and the little (or lower-case) letter, and that each page will have the name of the fruit or letter written in capital/upper-case and small/lower-case letters.

- As you read, talk about fruits and vegetables your child knows and eats!
- **Use the glossary** at the back of the book to read about any fruits or vegetables about which you or your child want to know more.

After Reading: Discuss and Extend

Ask your child whether they liked the book. Ask your child whether they want you to read the book with them again! Encourage your child to "read" the book with you when you read it again.

After reading the book, you and your child could:

- Go to the library and check out other alphabet books!
- Have your child make their own alphabet book, and draw pictures of fruits and vegetables (and other things, too!) that begin with each letter. Write the names of the objects for your child. Be sure your child includes things that are interesting or important to them!
- Go back through the book and have your child tell you their favorite fruits and vegetables.
- Make a healthy snack for your child that includes some of the fruits and vegetables in the book.

NOTE : Videos for parents can be	accessed on the L	_EAP website: <u>http</u>	<u>os://leap.cehd.gmu</u>	<u>ı.edu/parent-</u>
and-family-resources/				