

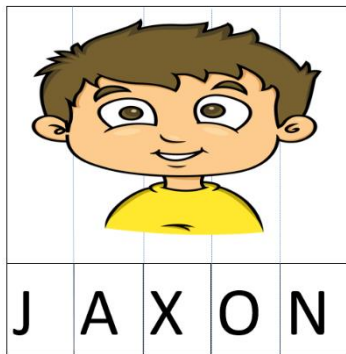
# Name Puzzle



Use this fun puzzle game to teach phonemic awareness and the importance of letter order.

## THINK ABOUT...

A foundational skill for preschool literacy is development of phonemic awareness, letter recognition and name recognition. This puzzle game allows your child to order the letters of their name to create a picture of themselves while exploring the sounds of the letters in their name.



## MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Picture Puzzle PDF
- Picture of child
- Scissors, glue/tape

## Optional:

- Lamination materials

## PREPARATION

- 1- Print out the Picture Puzzle PDF
- 2- Follow directions as listed on PDF

## VOCABULARY/ Language:

- Letters of name

## ACTIVITY

- 1- Start by laying out the complete puzzle for your child to see.
- 2- Use acoustic highlighting to emphasize each different letter, what it looks like, and the sound it makes. Talk about the shape of each letter and where it falls in the order for your child's name. Have your child repeat back to you the letters and practice the sounds they make in their name.
- 3- Now mix up the pieces and see if your child can put them back together. Take this opportunity to explain that when letters are in the right order, they make words - like our names!
- 4- As your child gets better at ordering the letters, you can use auditory closure to test their skills. "Your puzzle looks great! At the beginning, I see the letter \_\_\_\_" If your child does not respond after 5-8 seconds, fill it in. "J! I see the letter J at the beginning." Then, if appropriate, ask the question again.
- 5- Note that your child may have a hard time differentiating between the sounds of each letter. Repetition is key and will help your child listen for the subtle differences.
- 6- Keep the puzzle in an easy to reach place so your child can keep practicing.

## HELPFUL TIPS

- For even more practice with letters, make a puzzle for each family member or close friend for your child to play with!
- To increase language, you can hide the different pieces behind your back and have your child ask for each piece before they begin. This strategy usually works best when what you are hiding is a highly-desired object that your child will take the time to request.

*Special thanks to graduate students in the Listening and Spoken Language Deaf Education graduate training program at Utah State University. These pages can be reproduced for educational purposes.*

Utah State University, Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education



Write letters of name below. Cut off excess puzzle pieces. Glue/Tape picture here. Laminate if desired. Cut from bottom to top along faded dotted lines to create puzzle strips.
