

STEPPING STONES

Introduce your child to alphabets and phonetics using animals painted on rounded river stones to make learning fun, creative and engaging

These painted stones, each with an alphabet with a distinct animal reference, help the child visually associate an alphabet and a phonetic sound with the animal.

Relational learning- children perceive information as part of a picture and exhibit intuitive thinking. This aids in having good memory for verbally presented ideas and information. Draw away your child away from being glued to a screen! This project engages your child to learn spellings and phonics, where there is *mobility, interaction* and *invention*.

These stones help children act on their ideas, even as they engage in play.

1. **Create your own animal zoo:** Children can create their own mini zoo by choosing the stones with their favourite animals. This helps the child memorise those alphabets along with the phonic sounds. For example, a child creates her own zoo with a snake (S), lion (L) and an alligator (A). This encourages the child to think originally.
2. **Picture and auditory-based association:** Children have fun guessing the animal and alphabet painted on the stone by the phonetic sound and by prompt hints, such as a hissing sound for 'snake'. Visual identification comes through the animal painted on the stone and auditory based association is grasped through the phonetic sound.
3. **Introduce your child to a world filled with animals:** In fact 26 different animals! A fascinating world of ecology, animal habits, habitats. Nourish their natural inquisitiveness and include fun and fantasy as a way to learn.
4. **The alphabet trail game:** Jumble up the alphabets and ask the child to arrange them in a correct alphabetic order.
5. **Treasure hunt:** Draw the attention from your child. Enhance her problem solving and critical thinking skills. Parents can hide the stones in a sandpit and create playful hurdles such as questions the child needs to answer before moving to the next hint, and so on.
6. **Invent your own game:** From colour matching to using logical reasoning to arrange stones to create stories -- the possibilities are endless.

Involve yourself in your child's learning, wellbeing and development. Nothing is more important than bonding with your child. Unbound creativity!