

# Lesson Plan: Awesome Letter A Adventure

**Subject:** Early Literacy

**Topic:** Introduction to the Letter A (name, sound, and form)

**Target Age:** 5 years old

**Estimated Time:** 20 Minutes

## Materials Needed

- A large flashcard or drawing of uppercase 'A' and lowercase 'a'
- A small object that starts with the letter A (e.g., a real or toy apple, a picture of an ant)
- Whiteboard or large paper and a marker/crayon
- For the craft:
  - A pre-cut large uppercase 'A' from construction paper (e.g., brown or red)
  - Red or green paper scraps (or torn pieces)
  - A small green paper leaf shape
  - Glue stick
- (Optional) A picture book with clear text

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## Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:

1. Identify the uppercase 'A' and lowercase 'a'.
2. Make the short /a/ sound, as in "apple."
3. Find at least one object that begins with the letter A.
4. Create a craft that reinforces the shape of the letter A.

## Success Criteria

"I know I've learned it when I can..."

- Point to the letter A when I see it.
- Say "a-a-a" like in "apple."
- Show you my "Apple A" craft and tell you what letter it is.

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## Lesson Plan

### Part 1: Introduction - Meet Letter A! (3 minutes)

#### Hook (Engage)

**Educator says:** "I have a secret sound for you! Listen closely... 'a... a... a...' What does that sound like?"

It's the sound an ant makes when it sees a giant... **A-A-APPLE!**" (Show the apple or a picture of one).

**Educator says:** "That 'a' sound comes from a very special letter. Meet the amazing letter A!" (Show the 'A' and 'a' flashcard).

### State Objectives

**Educator says:** "Today, we are going to be Letter A Detectives! Our job is to:

1. Learn what Letter A looks like and sounds like.
2. Go on a hunt for the letter A.
3. Make our very own amazing Apple A!"

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## Part 2: Body - The Letter A Adventure (12 minutes)

### "I Do": Model the Letter (3 minutes)

**Educator says:** "My turn to be the expert! Watch me. This is the big, uppercase A. It looks like a tall mountain. We draw a line up, a line down, and a little bridge across." (Draw a large 'A' on the whiteboard/paper while saying this).

**Educator says:** "And this is the little, lowercase a. It looks like a circle with a little stick. We make a magic 'c' shape, then go up and back down." (Draw a lowercase 'a' next to the big A).

**Educator says:** "The letter A makes the 'a' sound, like in **a-a-apple** and **a-a-alligator**. Can you open your mouth wide and say 'a' with me?"

*(Formative Assessment: Observe if the child attempts to make the sound.)*

### "We Do": Go on a Letter A Hunt (5 minutes)

**Educator says:** "Now it's our turn! Let's be Letter A Detectives together. Let's stand up and look around the room for ONE thing that starts with the 'a' sound. I see some... ART on the wall! What can you find?" (Give hints if needed).

**Educator says:** "Great job! Now let's look for the \*shape\* of the letter A." (Open a picture book). "Can you help me find a letter A on this page? When you see one, point to it!"

*(Formative Assessment: Note whether the child can visually identify the letter shape in print.)*

### "You Do": Create an "Apple A" (4 minutes)

**Educator says:** "Now it's your turn to be the artist! You are going to make your very own Apple A. Here is a big letter A." (Hand the child the pre-cut 'A').

### Instructions:

1. "First, let's cover our A with red (or green) apple skin. Use the glue stick to put glue on the A, and then stick on the paper pieces."
2. "Now, let's add a green leaf to the top, just like a real apple!"

*(While the child works, ask questions: "What letter are you decorating? What sound does it make?")*

*(Summative Assessment: The completed craft serves as a physical representation of learning the letter's shape. The child's ability to name the letter while working shows understanding.)*

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### **Part 3: Conclusion - Awesome A Recap (5 minutes)**

#### **Review Key Points**

**Educator says:** "Wow, look at your amazing Apple A! Let's show it off. Hold it up high!"

#### **Ask recap questions:**

- "What was the name of our letter today?" (A)
- "What sound does it make?" (a-a-a)
- "Can you show me with your finger how to draw a big A in the air?" (Up, down, across!)

#### **Reinforce & Close**

**Educator says:** "You were a fantastic Letter A Detective today! You found it, you said its sound, and you made it into a beautiful piece of art. We can hang this up to remember our awesome Letter A adventure. All day today, let's see if we can spot any more letter A's!"

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### **Differentiation**

- **For Learners Needing More Support (Scaffolding):**
  - Practice tracing the letter shape with a finger in sand, shaving cream, or on a textured card.
  - Provide pre-glued areas on the 'A' craft for easier sticking.
  - Focus only on the uppercase 'A' and its sound to avoid confusion.
- **For Learners Needing a Challenge (Extension):**
  - Challenge the child to write the letters 'A' and 'a' on their own on the whiteboard.
  - Brainstorm a list of other words that start with 'A' (astronaut, anchor, animal).
  - Introduce the long 'A' sound (like in 'ape' or 'acorn') and discuss how one letter can make two sounds.