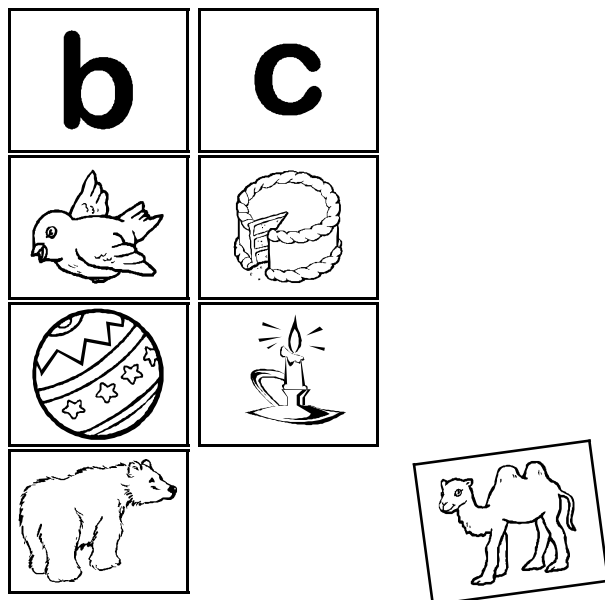# LETTER & PICTURE SORTING
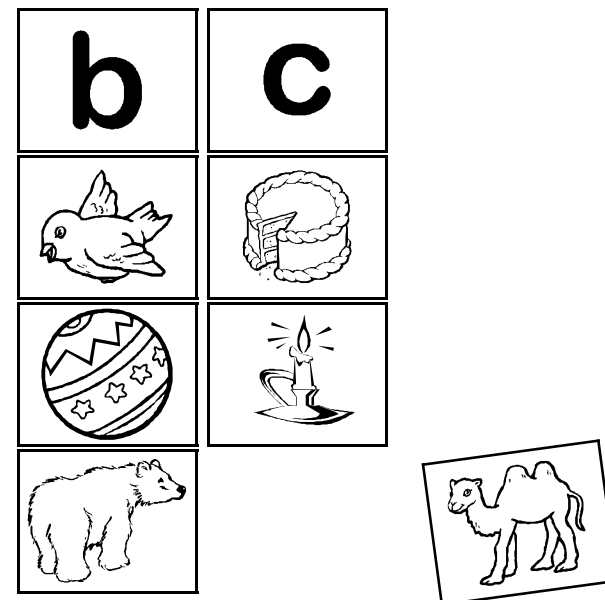## Independent Letter Recognition Practice

Notes on Letter Mastery

- Through games and activities that produce meaningful repetition, a beginning or struggling reader must master a specific sequence of letters. He must learn them by <u>sound</u>, not by name. (Names will come later.)
- The alphabet should be divided into clusters, arranged so as not to create confusion between similar looking or sounding letters. The child masters one cluster at a time—in sequence—until all 26 letters are learned.
- Introduction to word reading or decoding does <u>not</u> begin until the child has achieved a significant level of mastery of the entire alphabet. Mastery implies accuracy <u>and</u> speed of letter naming (by sound).
- Recommended clusters: [1] a, g, h, m, s [2] c, d, l, o, t [3] f, i, p, r, u [4] e, j, k, n, w [5] b, v, y, z, qu, x.
- Teach lower case first, upper case later.
- This material is designed for independent practice with letters that the child has already learned.
- The cards in this set should be divided into 5 or 6 smaller sets according to the sequence of letters taught by the teacher.
- We want the child to become <u>great</u> letter reader. Struggling readers are almost never fluent and confident in letter recognition.

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