

Early Childhood Education Lesson Plan for *Good Night, Good Knight*

Name of Activity: Good Knight Alphabet Quest

Students Participating; size of group: Small groups of 4 or 5 children (ideally) or larger with a leader for each group

Lesson Goal: Using a selection of favorite books, learners will go on a scavenger hunt for words that begin with the first letter of their name.

Learning Objectives/Skills: The learners will be able to:

- a) learn new words when they are found in favorite books
- b) pay attention to specific letters during their alphabet quest
- c) look at a variety of fiction and nonfiction books during their alphabet quest
- d) print some letters or words for others to read during their alphabet quest

Environmental Adaptations, Time & Materials Needed:

The following activities can be adapted to almost any environment. Children will need a comfortable area for exploring books and a flat surface for writing. The activities will take approximately **25 – 30 minutes** depending on students. The following materials will be needed:

- A selection of favorite books—at least one book per child including both fiction and nonfiction.
- [Letter name pattern page](#), one per child
- Colored pencils for the children to share
- Small self-stick notes—1” x 2”, one per child, so they can save their book page
- Book: *Good Night, Good Knight*
- Optional: Good Knight Book Cover, [see resources for home made books](#)

Procedure/Description of the Activity:

1. Read *Good Night, Good Knight* aloud to the children. Talk about knights and how knights go on quests. Talk about the Good Knight. Did he go on a quest? What was his quest? Explain how the children will be on a quest for special words that begin with the first letter in each child’s name.

2. Model for the children how to look for words using your own name. Demonstrate how to write the word on the pattern page. “My name is Hannah. The first letter in my name is H.” Review the sound the letter makes and point out special characteristics like upper or lower case. “Look, here’s the Good Knight’s horse. Horse begins with the letter H. See here’s a lower case h – h-o-r-s-e -- horse. Now I’m going to write the letter “h” on my page. And look at this empty space. I can draw a picture of a horse here.”

3. Ask the children what the first letters in their names are and praise their responses. Encourage children to look for their own first letters of their name words in various books. Guide children to pick words that they can easily illustrate. Place small self-stick notes to mark the pages where children find their special words. Praise the children for finding words. Note when there may be special cases of name letters hiding in the middle or end of words; for example, Xavier and Xing might have to use a word like “box” that has the letter at the end of the word. Teachers can help children locate hard to find letters by previewing the book selection for them.

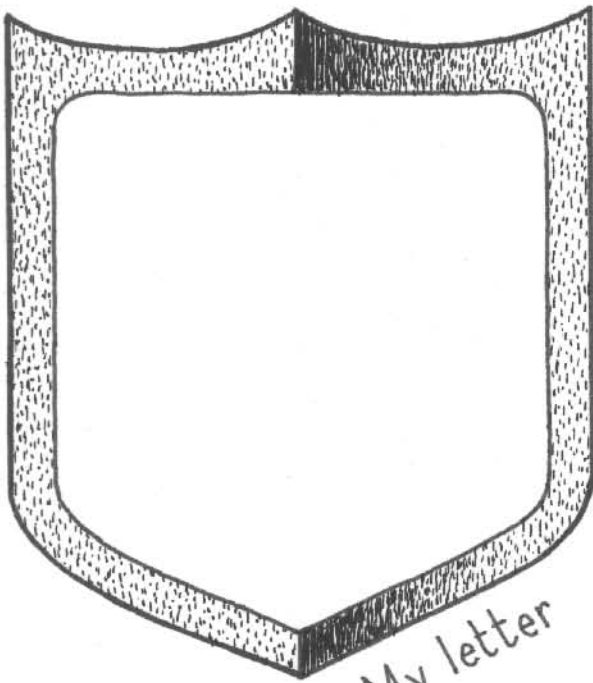
4. Point to the words the children find and talk about the word; for example, is the word a thing, an action, a person, a place, etc.? Talk about the sound that their letter makes. Is it also the same sound that the child’s

name starts with? If it is appropriate to the children's development tell the children that alliteration refers to words that start with the same sounds such as "water" and "Walter" or "cave" and "Cathy".

5. Encourage the children to write the letters down on their name pattern pages and draw pictures of the words. Note: younger children may need assistance in copying or may need you to print the letter for them. If appropriate to the child's development, encourage each child to write his or her name or first letter word on the page as well. While the children are drawing, talk about the words they have found and how a knight might use the word; for example, "What might a knight do with a horse? Can you think of a sentence with a knight and horse in it?"

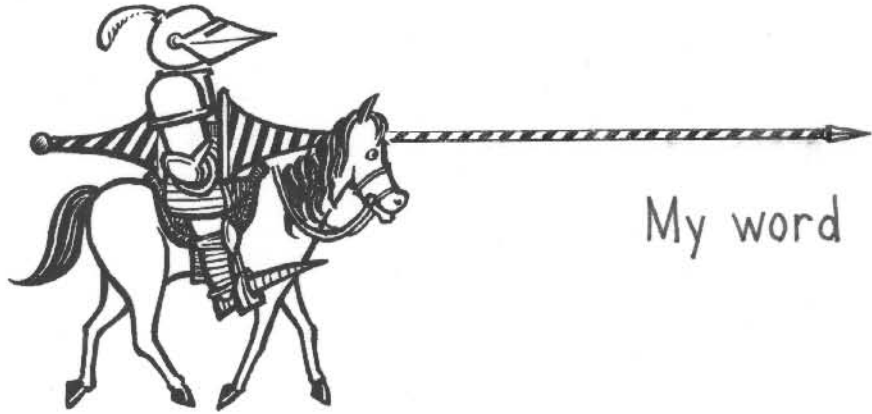
6. Wrap up: let each child share the word that he or she found, the pattern page picture, and the book in which the word was found. Optional: Introduce the song [Good Night Lullaby](#) which will be used during the Parent-Child Interactive Literacy Lesson.

7. Extension variation: During another session or spread over several sessions, find words in favorite books for the remaining letters in the alphabet. Have the class create a knight alphabet book by compiling and binding all the letter pattern pages and add the special [Good Knight Book Cover](#). Read the alphabet book together. Let children take turns taking the co-authored book home. If possible, create colored copies so each child can have their own copy of the book.

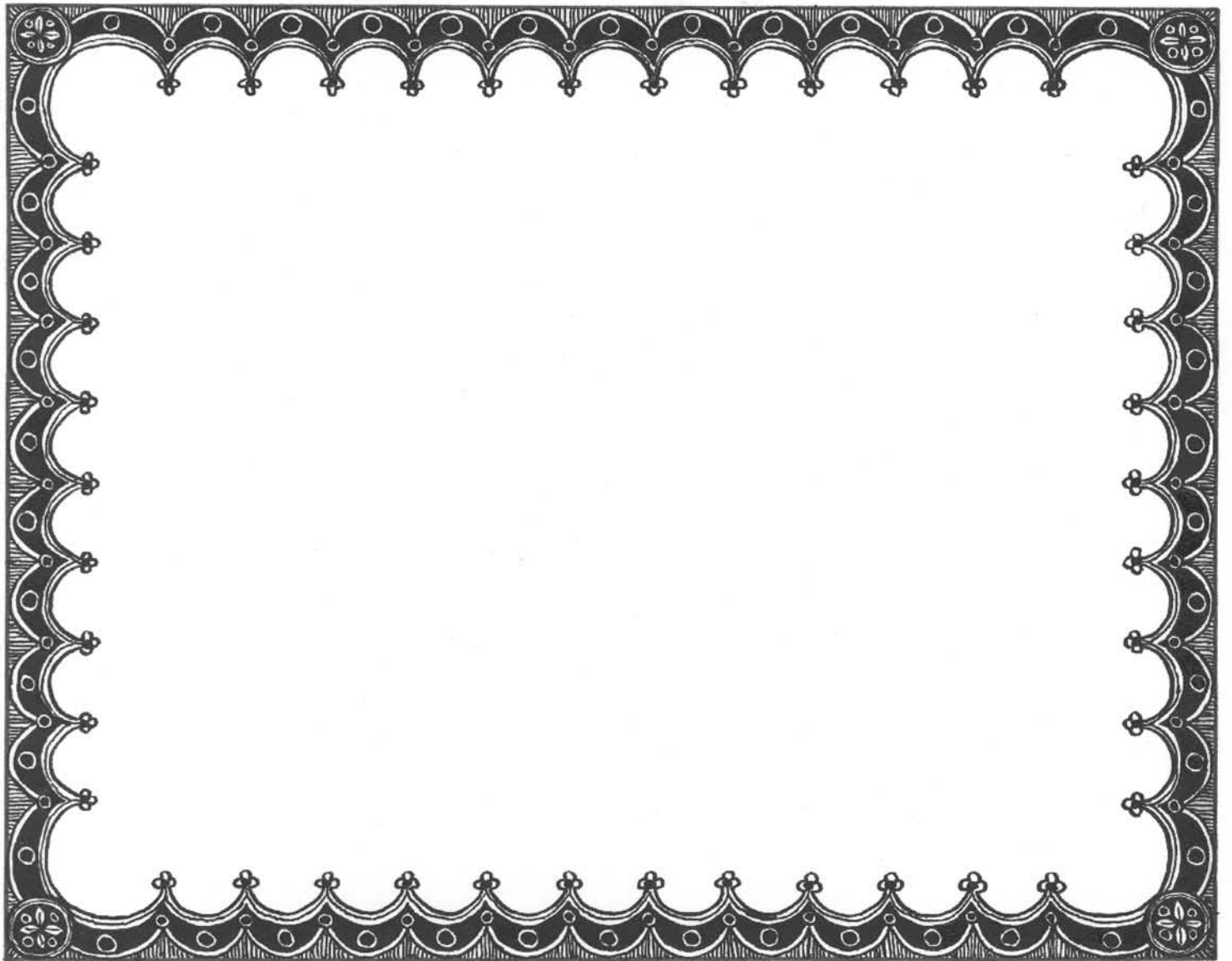


My letter

My name



My word





A
Good Knight's
ABC
Book

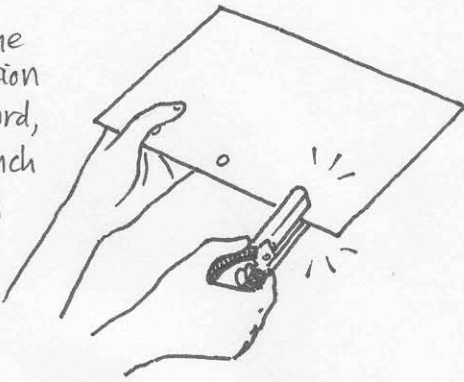
Written and Illustrated by

FUN!

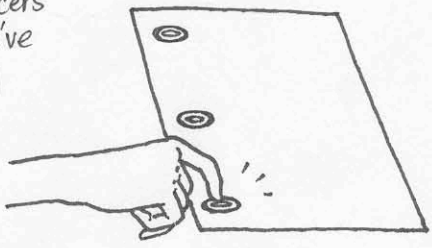
PUT TOGETHER YOUR OWN BOOK!

FUN!

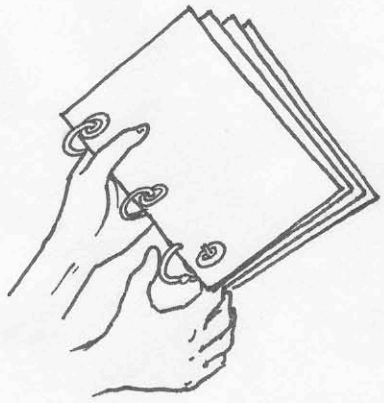
① Start by getting some sheets of construction paper or posterboard, and use a hole punch to punch holes along the edges of the sheets of paper.



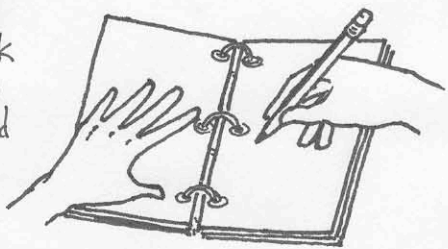
② Next, put hole reinforcers around the holes you've just punched, so they won't tear when the pages are turned.



③ Now, put the loose-leaf book rings through the holes. These will keep the pages together.



④ That's it! Now you're ready to decorate the book. Take a look at the drawing below for some examples and suggestions.

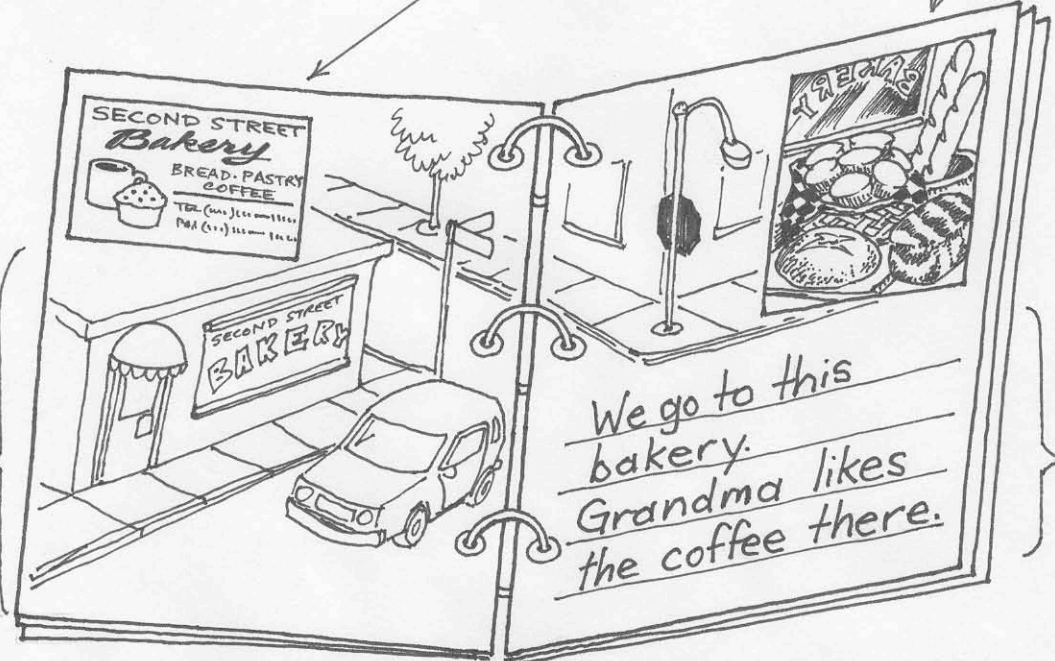


⑤ Here's a sample page from a book that you might use to tell about the places in your town or neighborhood. In this example, it's a bakery.

Here, a business card from the bakery was glued into the book.

Here's a newspaper ad for the bakery that was cut out and glued into the book.

Here's a drawing of the bakery. This part you can do for yourself!



We go to this bakery.
Grandma likes the coffee there.

Maybe you'd like to write something about the places you choose, too.

Good Night Lullaby

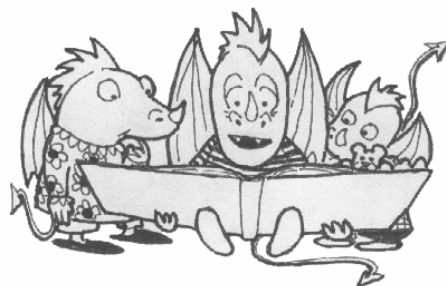
(Based on the tune *Good Night Ladies*)

Personalize the song by changing the name dragons to Good Knight, children, or your child's name.

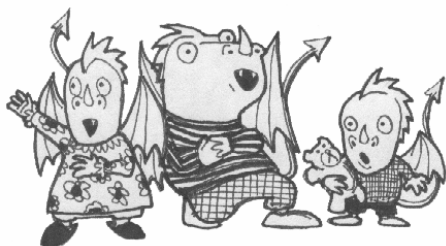
Good night, dragons,
Good night, dragons,
Good night, dragons,
It's time to say good night.



Good night, dragons,
Good night, dragons,
Good night, dragons,
It's time to drink your water.



Good night, dragons,
Good night, dragons,
Good night, dragons,
It's time to read your story.



Good night, dragons,
Good night, dragons,
Good night, dragons,
It's time to sing your song.



Good night, dragons,
Good night, dragons,
Good night, dragons,
It's time to kiss good night.

You can also personalize the song's bedtime routine by adding verses with a different last line. Here are some suggestions:

...It's time to brush your teeth.	...It's time to hug your teddy.
...It's time to wear pajamas.	...It's time to get in bed.