

The Helper of the Day Routine: Playing with Phonics!



Each day a new child gets to be the helper of the day, determined by the names which are alphabetized and kept on a ring. This daily “coming together” ritual begins

with the whole class singing the helper of the day song. Then the “helper of the day” enthusiastically leads the class in his or her name call/response signing cheer.

Initial phonemic awareness and phonics lessons are built on each child’s name. Katie Nelson can be heard directing the children:

- Let’s say the name.
- Stretch out the name long.
- What’s the first sound in his name?
- What’s the last sound?
- What are the vowels?
- Clap the name.
- How many syllables do you hear?

Helper of the Day Song


♫ To the tune of *Skip to My Lou* ♫
(Sung by the entire class.)

Lucas is the helper of the day
Lucas is the helper of the day
Lucas is the helper of the day
Let’s give him a big “hooray!”

The Name Fingerspelling Cheer

(Lead by the “helper of the day”.)

Give me an “L”! (class) “L”!
Give me a “U”! (class) “U”!
Give me a “C”! (class) “C”!
Give me an “A”! (class) “A”!
Give me an “S”! (class) “S”!
What’s it spell? (class) LUCAS!

Multisensory ABC and Phonics Immersion is expanded to connect with each child’s names. See  **Name and Fingerspelling Chant** with Katie Nelson at nellieedge.com.