

WHAT IS STICKYBEAR ABC?

Stickybear ABC is an alphabet program designed especially for children from ages three to six. On the program diskette, each letter of the alphabet is represented by two completely different, fully animated pictures with sound. Press the letter **B** and a picture of a bee buzzing around Stickybear will appear. The word **BEE** also appears on the screen, as well as the letter **B**. Press **B** again. The picture changes to a bouncing ball complete with the letter **B** and the word **BALL**.

A Stickybear ABC poster is included. It is designed to reinforce letter recognition. Both pictures for each letter displayed on the program diskette appear on the Stickybear ABC poster.

Also included is *The Look Book*. This delightful book contains labeled and unlabeled objects for children to identify in such familiar settings as a toy store, supermarket, furniture store, bakery, clothing store, garage, and home. The book can be used with children for picture and word recognition.

LEARNING WITH STICKYBEAR ABC

Computer Awareness

Today's children will grow up in a computer society. By using programs designed especially for them, young children can become familiar with the computer and its keyboard. Computerphobia will never exist for children given hands-on experience at an early age. With Stickybear ABC, children do not just watch adults use that fascinating machine, they use it themselves!

Exploration and Discovery

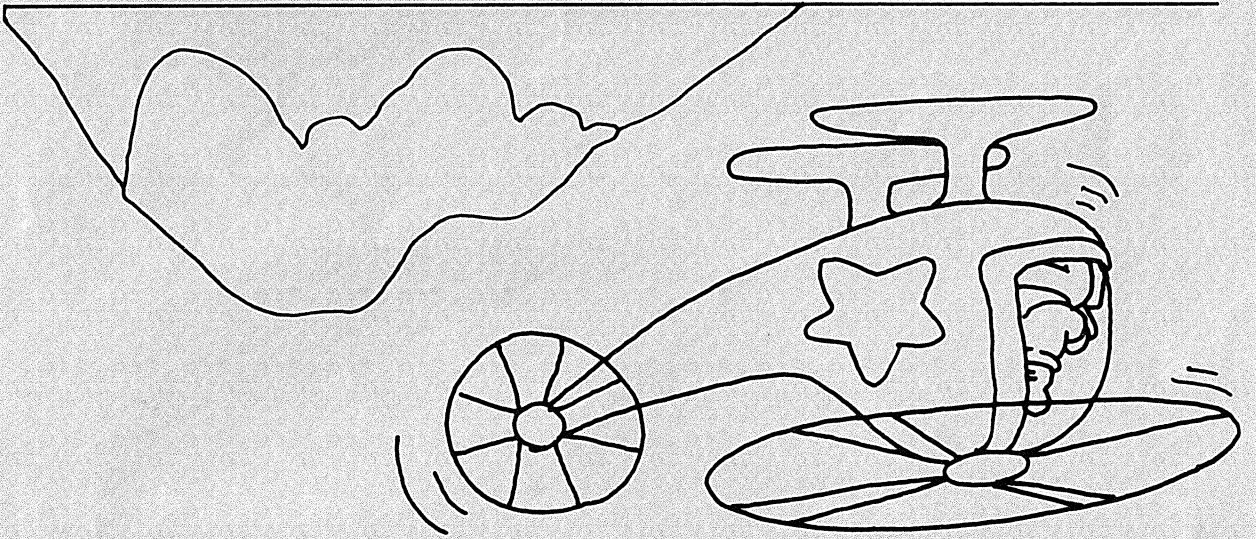
Young children are natural scientists. They love to observe, experiment, and explore. Stickybear ABC is designed to stimulate these young explorers. They can use the program by themselves. They can explore the keyboard and discover that pressing a letter produces a picture. Further exploration will reveal two pictures for each letter. Later, they will discover the interrelationships of the words, letters, and pictures.

Prereading and Reading Skills

Stickybear ABC is designed to reinforce letter and word recognition. The poster and *The Look Book* can be used to facilitate and expand this learning. As younger children gain experience with the program, they will begin to recognize and name the letters. Older children begin to recognize the words on sight. Some of the words on the program and in *The Look Book* may be unfamiliar. Thus, children also benefit by learning new words and their meanings. Auditory skills are enhanced as children discover the similar initial sounds of words. Ball and bee start with the same sound! All these skills will be important when children begin to read.

Fun

Stickybear ABC's hi-resolution graphics, animated objects, and sounds combine to provide endless fascination. Even older children (and adults) who have already learned their letters will enjoy experimenting with Stickybear ABC.



HOW TO USE STICKYBEAR ABC

Adult Instructions

Stickybear ABC will work on any Apple or Apple II Plus or Apple //e with 48K and a disk drive with DOS 3.3 (16 sector).

Put the program diskette into the drive and turn on your Apple. If you have Autostart, you will see the title panel displayed.

If your Apple does not have the Autostart ROM, you will see the monitor cursor*. Type **6**; then type **P** while holding down the key marked **CTRL**, (**6 CTRL P**); then press the **RETURN** key. **To turn off sound touch CTRL Q.**

Instructions for Children

After you have followed the above directions, simply instruct children to press any letter.

If you want children to load the diskette themselves, explain each step carefully. Demonstrate the procedure. Have children practice the procedure several times under your supervision. Be sure to demonstrate how to hold the diskette. Stress the importance of being careful. The diskette should be held only by the end with the picture. It cannot be bent or folded. Remember to include putting the diskette safely away after use as part of your demonstration procedure.

Learning the Program

Children learn best by experimenting themselves. Try to resist that almost overpowering impulse to intervene in the discovery process. You can have your turn later! Allow children to discover (without coaching) that pressing a letter key produces a picture. Eventually children will find that there are two picture displays for each letter.

Most children will require little or no guidance. However, if a little assistance is required, try phrasing your suggestion in question form. If children hesitate to start, ask "What letter would you like to do first?" (Usually they choose the first letter of their names.) By making suggestions in question form, you allow children to stay in control.

Children often experiment with the program in ways difficult for adults to understand. Some children may appear to be randomly pressing keys when they are actually testing the "rule" that nonletter keys produce no effect. Some children like to watch the same display for much longer than adults would. Others press the keys too quickly for the computer to register. If several letter keys are pressed in rapid succession, only the first one will appear on the screen. Eventually children will discover the "da da dap" sound that indicates the letter has registered and will appear next. Try not to impose "adult" order on children's experimentation. It might interrupt the learning process.

Using The Look Book

The Look Book is designed to encourage picture and word recognition. Children will delight in the colorful pictures as they accompany the bears on their shopping trip. Encourage children to talk about each page: "What are the bears doing? What do you see in the

picture?" Younger children will need help identifying some of the objects. Start with the more familiar objects. Give hints. Accept answers even if they are not exact. If children identify the customer at the supermarket checkout as a bear, try saying, "Yes, that is a bear. When he is shopping in a store, he is also a customer. When we are shopping, we are customers too." Don't try to do too much. *The Look Book* is full of objects to identify. It is meant to be used over and over again. Older children may begin to sound out the words.

Additional Activities

After children have *fully* explored Stickybear ABC several times, you may want to try a few more structured activities.

Name the Picture. Ask children to identify the picture displays by name. Adults easily read the words and letters and can give the "correct" response. But children may focus on a different part of the display. They could look at the *l* (bear jumping) display and say, *bear*. *Cry* could be *tears*. *Queen* could be *crown*. To get the response that goes with the letter, give a few hints. For the jumping display, ask "What is Stickybear doing?" A few words, like *volcano* and *windmill*, may be new to children. Introduce the new words and explain its meaning. If children give an appropriate response based on the picture but not the "correct" one, give them some positive reinforcement. For example, children might look at the *night* display and say *stars*. Respond with "Yes, there are stars. Do stars shine in the day? No? They shine at _____."

Match the Picture. Ask children to pick a picture on the poster and then find it on the computer. Press the letters again and the other half of the poster picture will appear!

Name the Letter. Ask children to name the letter in the picture. This task is difficult for younger children. Try starting with the first letter of children's names. Letters in children's names and letters in the beginning of the alphabet are usually the most familiar. Older children may enjoy identifying all the letters in the words.

Initial Sounds. Press each letter twice so that the two pictures for each letter appear right after one another. Ask children to name the pictures. Then repeat the names, stressing the first sound. This activity helps develop auditory skills. Another version of this game is to give hints by using the initial sound. "I see something that starts with *mmm*. Yes, a mountain!"

Some children will immediately enjoy these activities. Others will prefer to continue exploring Stickybear ABC on their own. Be patient. Introduce the activities in small doses. For younger children, naming four or five pictures at a time may be sufficient. Remember, this program was designed for children from ages three through six. The younger children have shorter attention spans and different interest levels than the older children. Stickybear ABC is a combination of computer program, book, and poster especially designed for young children. It gives children an introduction to computers, encourages their sense of exploration and discovery, teaches pre-reading and reading skills, and is a lot of fun!