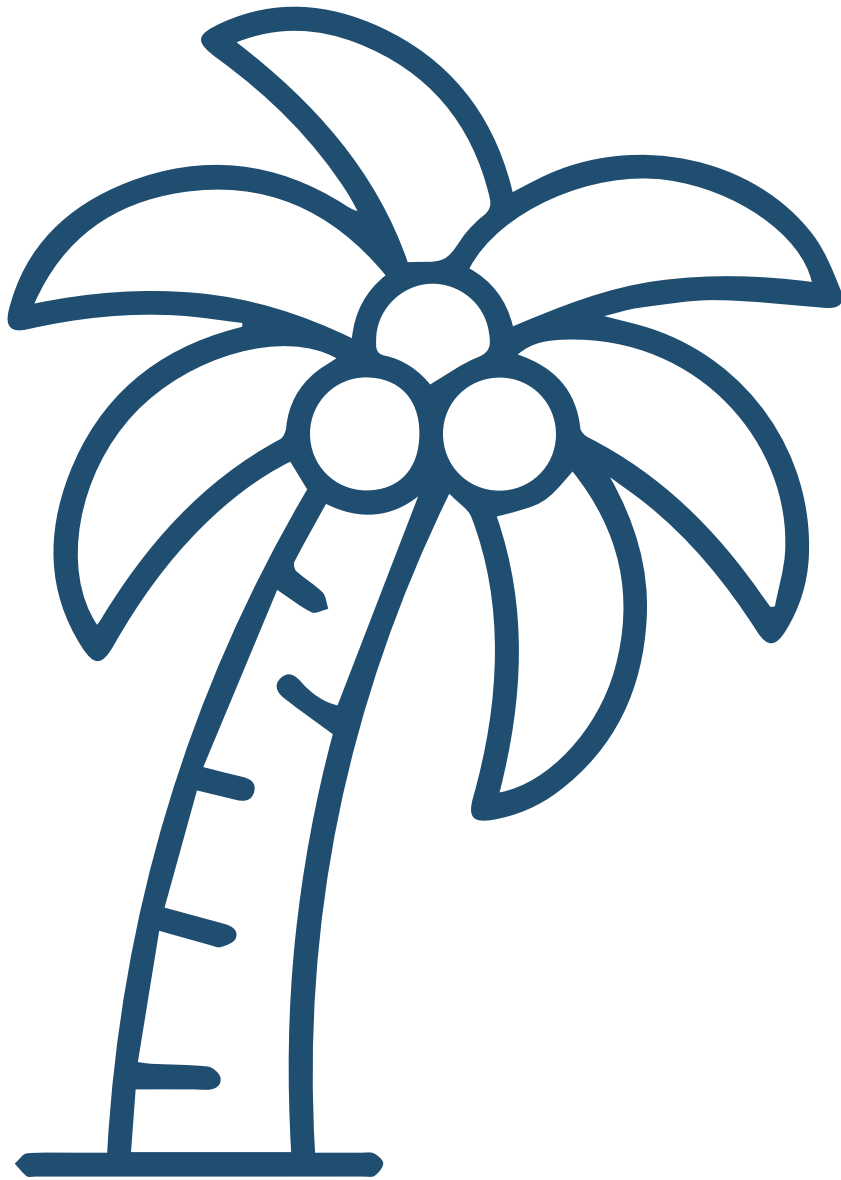


I'M IN A COCONUT TREE!

Help your child write the letters of their name in the leaves of the coconut tree. Then talk about which letters in their name are uppercase letters and which letters are lowercase letters. You can write more than one letter on each leaf.



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INTERACTIVE READING GUIDE

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom

by Bill Martin, Jr. and
John Archambault

In this lively alphabet rhyme, all the letters of the alphabet race each other up the coconut tree. Will there be enough room? Oh, no— Chicka Chicka Boom Boom!

Want to read more books like this one? Visit your local or school library to check out more!

Create Successful Reading Habits

Recent research states that you can help your child become a stronger reader by discussing questions they have about the books they read and helping them find the answers.* This practice will allow your child to understand that not only are books entertaining, they can be a source of information as well.

Here are ways you can help your child ask and answer questions about the books they read:

- After they read, ask your child, “What questions do you have about what you just read?”
- Ask them to think about what they already know about this book or topic.
- Help them check the book to find the answers to their questions.
- If the answers to their questions cannot be found in the book, talk about where you might be able to find the answers, such as another book or on the Internet. Help them use those other information sources to find answers to their questions.

* U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, What Works Clearinghouse. (n.d.). Practice Guides. <https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/PracticeGuides>

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WORD WORK

Help your child identify **uppercase and lowercase letters** in words. Here is an example of how to do this using words from the book. If your child cannot identify the upper and lowercase letters, tell them the letters, and help them identify them in other words as you read.

A told B, and B told C, "I'll meet you at the top of the coconut tree." (p. 2)

Ask your child:

- "Do you know the first letter in this sentence?" (Point to the letter A.)
- "Is this an uppercase A or a lowercase a?" (uppercase)
- "Can you tell me the first letter in the word *told*?" (Point to the letter t.)
- "Is the t in *told* an uppercase T or a lowercase t?" (lowercase)
- Repeat the activity with B (uppercase), C (uppercase), and *coconut* (lowercase).

You can help your child identify uppercase and lowercase letters in words by selecting a few words throughout the story to practice with them. You may repeat letters or point out new letters.

TALK ABOUT NEW AND INTERESTING WORDS

When children encounter unfamiliar words, take a moment to talk about the words using child-friendly explanations or definitions. Here are some interesting words and child-friendly definitions to discuss from the book:

patched (p. 19)

If someone or something is **patched-up**, it has been fixed or healed. Letter F is hurt in the fall, but he is **patched-up** with a bandage.

tangled (p. 21)

Things that are **tangled** are twisted together and hard to get apart. When the letters fall out of the tree, letter H becomes **tangled** up with letter I.

wiggle (p. 27)

If something **wiggles**, it moves back and forth in small, quick movements. Letters U, V, and W are stuck together, but they are able to **wiggle** free.

dare (p. 32)

If you **dare** someone to do something, you ask them to prove they're not scared of doing it. Letter A **dares** the other letters to beat him to the top of the coconut tree.

ASK QUESTIONS TO CHECK UNDERSTANDING

Help your child understand what they read by pausing to have conversations before, during, and after they engage with a book. Encourage them to make connections to their lives, other books, and the world around them. Have your child go to the page numbers listed to help them answer the questions.

Before Reading:



- *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* is a book about the letters of the alphabet. Tell me all the letters of the alphabet that you know.
- What kind of tree is on the front cover of this book? What's hanging on the leaves?

During Reading:



- What happens when all the letters run to the top of the coconut tree? (p. 13 - 14)
- Who comes to help all of the letters when they are hurt and **tangled** on the ground? (p. 15)
- Have you ever fallen down and gotten hurt? Who helped you?
- Finish the sentence: Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, will there be enough _____? (room)
- What do you think will happen when letter A **dares** all of the other letters to beat him to the top of the coconut tree? (p. 32)

After Reading:



- Why do you think there isn't enough room for all the letters in the tree?
- Do you think it would be a good idea for the letters to climb back up the coconut tree? Why? (p. 32)
- How do you think the letters could solve their problem next time so that they can climb the tree without getting hurt?

FUN ACTIVITY

After reading *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom*, help your child complete the activity on the back page.