Why Preschoolers Should be Introduced to Letter Knowledge:

- The best predictor of reading achievement is accurate, rapid letter naming.
- Confidence in letter recognition makes it easier for children to learn letter sounds and spelling.
- Letter names provide relevant information about the sounds they represent.
- Children who see letters as wholes will see words as patterns of letters.
- Higher levels of letter knowledge are associated with the ability to detect and manipulate phonemes.
- Knowledge of the alphabet usually indicates that a child has had more experience with print.
- A child who has significant exposure to print knows a lot in addition to the alphabet and is more likely to engage in reading activities.

