

# Create Letter Art

In this activity, we are exploring how letters are made up of lines. We are learning about upper case letters and how our names begin with upper case letters. We are using language around types of lines.

## YOUR NAME IS A GIFT!

### WHAT LETTER DOES YOUR NAME START WITH?

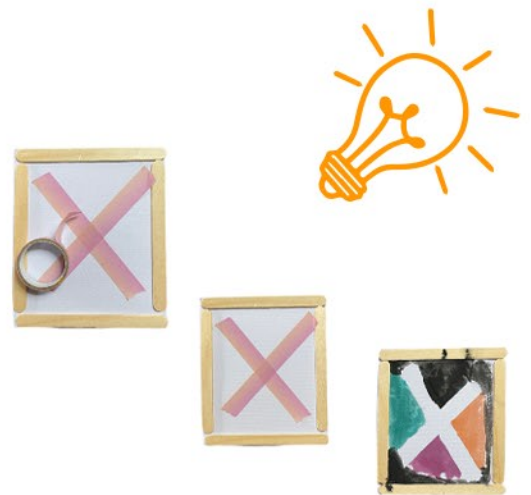
Our names belong to us and are special. All names begin with an upper-case letter. You might connect to a book you have just read aloud and name the characters in the book. Do the children know anybody with the same name as the characters? You might display an alphabet chart with upper case letters and examine the lines that make up letters. *How many straight lines can you count? What about curved lines?*

Here are two different ways to explore upper case letters.

### You will need:

**Option 1** - This option involves some specialist materials.

- Watercolour paper (available in the craft section of Kmart)
- Watercolour palettes
- Paintbrushes
- Washi tape
- Jars of water



In option 1, we are exploring a process known as tape resist.

- Tear the washi tape into strips to create the first initial on watercolour paper.
- Children paint over all the white space using watercolours.
- Once the paint has dried, gently peel the tape away to reveal the upper-case letter.



**Option 2** - you will need:

- Sheets of paper
- Black marker
- Scrap paper
- Glue



In option 2, we are using a basic collage method with scrap paper.

**Note:** Refer to the handwriting guidelines for letter formation from your state's Education Department. The language around letter formation can be very specific and it is beneficial to expose children to this metalanguage from an early age.

- Draw each child's first initial in black marker on a sheet of paper. Based on your state's handwriting guidelines, place dots and arrows in the right positions, so children know where to place their pencils when writing the letter.
- E.G "My name starts with 'S.' When we write this letter, we start at the top and move to make two smooth curves. It is the same as the lower case letter but taller."
- Children use glue and scrap paper to cover the black lines of their first initial.
- Once the artworks have dried, you might create a "graph" showing all the people who start with 'S,' all the people who start with 'E,' and so on.



### *To conclude, you might ask:*

- What did you find tricky?
  - This encourages children to focus on the process, not the product.
- How many straight lines are there in your uppercase letter?