Make Alphabet Monster Cards

Letter recognition is a key preschool skill. Give your preschooler a head start on reading by helping him get to know the letters of the alphabet. Make your own personalized set of letter flash cards to get him thinking about the alphabet while boosting his fine motor skills in the process.

What You Need:

- 26 unlined index cards
- Thick bold marker
- Various art supplies such as markers, colored pencils, crayons, or stickers

What You Do:

1. Write one letter of the alphabet on each index card with the thick marker.
2. On the other side of the index cards, ask your child to create an alphabet monster or creature by drawing the letter and adding eyes, a nose, a mouth, ears, fangs, etc. with the art supplies.
3. After he finishes each letter monster, invite him to give his creature a name that starts with the same letter. For example, for a T monster, he might name it "Thomas the Terrible". Write each monster's name on its card.
4. Now decorate the cards with 2-3 everyday things that start with each letter. For the D card, for example, he could draw a dog and a dolphin. Give him ideas if he has trouble thinking of things on his own.
5. Label each picture with its name.

That's it! Help your preschooler learn the alphabet by showing him the side with just the letter and asking him what letter it is. If he has trouble, give him hints by naming the monster or one of the pictures on the other side.

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