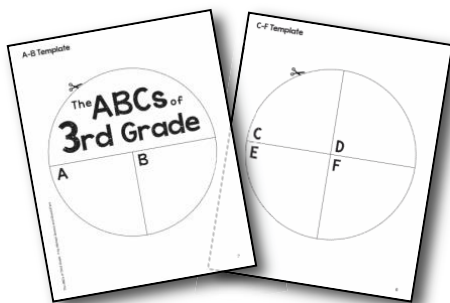


Creating the Circlebooks

Materials

- copies of the seven CIRCLEBOOK templates, pp. 7-13
- colored markers and pencils
- scissors
- glue sticks

1. Write the letters A to Z on the chalkboard or down the left side of a large sheet of chart paper.
2. As a class, brainstorm all of the activities, units, field trips, assemblies, events, and educational topics of the past school year that begin with each letter. Devote a good hour or so to this. Wonderful discussions will take place about all the memories of the past year.
3. Copy the CIRCLEBOOK TEMPLATES on pages 7-13, and pass them out to the students.



4. Have students select an example for each letter on the alphabetical list and write it next to the corresponding letter on the templates. (For example, next to "A" they might write "American History," "Art Class" or "Assemblies." Next to "B" they might write "Band," "Biology," or "Books We Read.")



5. In the space next to each letter, students should use colored pencils or markers to illustrate each of the words or phrases.



6. Have students cut out the seven circles and fold each of them in half vertically so the information is inside the fold.



- Instruct students to glue the back right side of the A-B TEMPLATE to the back left side of the C-F TEMPLATE.



- Then have students glue the back right side of the C-F TEMPLATE to the back left side of the G-J TEMPLATE.



- Have students repeat this for the other four templates.
- Finally, students should finish the circlebook by gluing the right side of the W-Z TEMPLATE to the left side of the A-B TEMPLATE.



Other Uses

Alliteration: Encourage students to create alliterative phrases for each of the letters. For example, they could write “Awesome Assemblies,” “Brilliant Books,” or “Chris, the Class Clown.”

Cooperative Learning: Assign a circlebook to a group of seven students. Invite them to brainstorm the alphabetical list together. Then each student can complete one of the seven templates and present their circlebooks to the class.

Homework: You can assign one template page to be completed each night at home during the final weeks of school. Once the seven pages are finished, guide the students through the step-by-step process of assembling the circlebooks, which they can then take home as mementos of their school year.

Display Idea: Hang a string across your classroom. Tie varying lengths of thread to the string. Tie a paper clip to the end of each piece of thread. Hang the circlebooks from the paper clips and watch them spin in the breeze!

Bulletin Board Idea: Rather than gluing the last page to the first page (as described in Step 10), have students glue the back-sides of the first and last pages to a sheet of poster board. Students can trim the poster board to create a round cover. Display these books by tacking the front and back covers to a bulletin board, allowing the pages to fan out. Passers-by will love the interactive quality of the bulletin board and will be tempted to flip through the pages of the circlebooks and learn more about the fun things your class did throughout the year.

Beginning of the Year Activity: At the end of a school year, have each student complete *one* letter (i.e. one quarter of a circlebook). Cut out the quarter-circles and glue them onto the full templates to create a class-made circlebook. On the first day of the next school year, share each of the letters that last year’s class chose. It makes a great ice-breaker, and it excites the new class about the coming year’s possibilities.

ABCs of School

This is a list of suggested answers to get you started. Try to personalize the list as much as possible, based on the unique experiences that occurred during the school year. Think of different subjects your class studied, specific field trips you went on, guest speakers and assemblies, etc.

A

Algebra, Attendance, Art, Arithmetic, Animals, Alphabet, Adjectives, Astronomy, Anatomy, Answers, Atlas, Assignment, Anti-Bullying, April Fool's Day, Autumn, Adverb, Alliteration, Antonym, Assonance, Addition, Africa

B

Bus, Books, Bell, Bookcase, Birthdays, Body, Building, Biology, Botany, Biomes, Birds, Butterflies, Biography, Backpack, Binder, Blackboard, Bookmark, Bodies of Water, Band, Books We Read

C

Chalkboard, Choices, Choose Kind, Creating, Calculator, Clay, Clock, Computer, Crayon, Continents, Calendar, Compass, Chalk, Class Clown, Chinese New Year, Countries, Constitution, Conjunctions, Characters, Concrete Poetry, Coach

D

Desk, Drama, Dictionary, Drawing, Dance, Dinosaurs, Dividers, Debate, Dialogue, Division

E

Education, English, Empathy, Exam, Edit, Extracurricular Activities, Earthquakes, Explorers, Encyclopedia, Experiments, Elections, Elements, Emotions, Energy

F

Flag, Farm, Food, Food Chain, Fifty States, Flowers, Folders, Four Seasons, Flash Cards, Figurative Language, Fall, Fish, Food Web, Friends, Fractions

G

Graduation, Geology, Geography, Globe, Glue, Graphic Organizers, Grades, Gym, Grammar, Government, Graph

H

History, Homework, Health, Human Body, Haiku, Hurricanes, Highlighter, Holidays, Halloween, Homonym, Homograph, Homophone, Hyperbole

I

Ink, Independence, Inventors, Intelligent, Insects, Interjections, Idioms, Imagery

J

Jungle Gym, Jobs

K

Keyboard, Kindness, Keys

L

Library, Listening, Lunch, Language Arts, Learn, Letters, Life Cycle, Landforms, Limerick, Literature

ABCs of School

m

Math, Money, Music, Microscope, Memorize, Map, Machines, Mammals, Measurements, Metaphors, Multiplication

n

Notes, Notebook, Nutrition, Numbers, Natural Disasters, News, Nouns, Narrator

o

Outstanding, Obstacles, Onomatopoeia, Oceans, One Hundredth Day of School

p

Pencil, Pen, Pastel, Physical Education, Play, Paper, Painting, Prize, Plants, Prepositions, Punctuation, Planets, Parts of Speech, Portfolio, Posters, Principal, Project, Pupil, Parties, Presidents, Pronouns, Poetry Personification

q

Questions, Quiz

r

Recess, Ruler, Reading, Read Alouds, Rainforests, Reptiles, Rocks and Minerals, Rhyme

s

Social Studies, Scissors, Science, Stories, Story Elements, Space, School, Sea, Sports,

Shapes, Storytime, States, Science Fiction, Students, Spring, Summer, Setting, Simile, Shape Poem, Synonym, Subtraction

t

Teacher, Tests, Technology, Topography, Time, Tornadoes, Tape, Thesaurus, Tables, Themes, Transportation, Thanksgiving, Time Line

u

Uniform, Units, US History, United States

v

Vowels, Vocabulary, Verbs, Volcanoes, Vacation, Vegetables, Valentine's Day, Vehicles, Venn Diagram

w

Writing, Weather, Water Cycle, Word Problems, World, Winter, Web Pages, Women's History

x

X-cellent, X-axis, eXploration,

y

Y-axis, Yearbook, Year-End Party, Yardstick, Yearn to Learn, Yard

z

Zero, Zany, Zoo