Title: Three-Letter Lacing

Recommended for: elders and children 3-5 years
Length of activity: 30 minutes
Suggested group size: 3-4 IG pairs

Objectives:
Children
- Problem Solving
- Sense of Competency
- Attention to Detail
- Fine Motor

Adults
- Fine Motor
- Attention to Detail
- Nurturing
- Communication

Materials Needed:
- Pipe Cleaners
- Alphabet Beads (with at least 1/8 inch opening)
- Printed words (three letter words)
- Decorative Beads
- Scissors

Methods
Facilitator Preparation
1. Purchase all materials.
2. Type and print (or use website below) 3-letter vocabulary words, about 5-8 per pair. Attach words to index cards (optional).
3. Cut 5-8 pipe cleaners in half for each IG pair.
   a. Option: have the adults and/or children cut the pipe cleaners prior to activity.
4. Set up 5-8 cut pipe cleaners, plenty of alphabet beads and the word flashcards for each pair.
   a. Place flashcards in front of the adult neighbors’ chair.

Intergenerational Participants
1. Introduction-pair each older adult with a child and sing the hello song.
2. Discuss words and spelling.
3. IG pairs work together to string alphabet beads to match each word flashcard.
4. Use facilitating questions and statements to encourage the adult neighbors explain each word flashcard and help their partner find the alphabet beads to spell each word.
5. If time is left, have IG pairs create pipe cleaner necklaces or bracelets with their names on them.
6. Older adults, children, and facilitators hold hands and sing the goodbye song.

Best Practices
- **Best Practice 1:** Staff members of adult and child programs collaborate to plan activities.
- **Best Practice 2:** Participants are involved in decision making about the activity.
- **Best Practice 3:** Participation is voluntary.
- **Best Practice 4:** Participants are prepared ahead of time and reflect on activities afterwards.
- **Best Practice 5:** Activities reflect participants’ interests, backgrounds, and social histories.
- **Best Practice 6:** Activities are age and role appropriate.
- **Best Practice 7:** Activities support interaction among intergenerational partners.
- **Best Practice 8:** Facilitators skillfully stage the environment to promote interaction.
- **Best Practice 9:** Facilitators consider the social environment and the role of staff members.
- **Best Practice 10:** Adaptive equipment is used as appropriate.
- **Best Practice 11:** Experiences are documented and communicated to varied resources to build upon in future activities.

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Special Considerations
• Be careful not to let participants swallow beads.
• Be sure to use font on flashcards that is large enough for adult participants to be able to read.
• May need to purchase large sized alphabet beads so that all participants are able to see the letter and aid in matching the beads to the words.

Getting To Know You
• Discuss what letters of the alphabet are used in spelling you and your partner’s names.

Encouraging Interaction
• Encourage adult neighbor to present and explain each word flashcard to their partner.
• “____ ask _____ what that flashcard spells”
• Invite IG pairs to create a pipe cleaner necklace or bracelet for one another.
• “____ ask _____ to show you how to spell your name”

Enrichment Opportunities
• Spelling Bee
• Jewelry creating

Technology Opportunities
• Website for activity: http://www.mamamiss.com/2012/09/07/busy-bag-3-letter-lacing-2/