

NAME STORYBOOKS



Activities for read aloud programs:

- Provide nametags for children and adults. Encourage young children to spell their name for you and print their name using a capital letter for the first name and lowercase letters for all the other letters. Say the name of each letter as you write it. Allow adults and older children to write their own names.
 - At the end of the program, provide materials for a craft related to names. Ask the children to stick or glue their nametag on their craft project and make a display of all the projects.
 - Encourage parents and caregivers to tell children why they were given their particular names.
 - Encourage parents and caregivers to look up the meaning of their child's name using [Behind the Name](#).
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FOR AGES 3 - 5

A My Name is Alice by Jane Bayer

The well-known jump rope ditty which is built on letters of the alphabet is illustrated with animals from all over the world. Help children think of similar chants for their own names!

Catalina Magdalena Hoopensteiner Wallendiner Hogan Logan Bogan Was Her Name by [Tedd Arnold](#)

Presents the words--and varying forms of the name--of a classic camp song that dates at least from the 1940s. She had two holes on the bottom of her nose--one for her fingers, and one for her toes! Though she has two arms that drag along the ground, two feet bigger than a bathroom mat, and just two teeth in her mouth, life for Catalina is full and fun!

Chrysanthemum by [Kevin Henkes](#) (also available as a [big book](#) , as a [DVD](#) and in [other formats](#).)

Chrysanthemum thinks her name is absolutely perfect, until her first day of school. "You're named after a flower!" teases Victoria. "Let's smell her," says Jo. Chrysanthemum wilts. What will it take to make her blossom again?

Edmund for Short: A Tale from China Plate Farm by [Chris Jackson](#)

When Edmund the pig discovers that the cows on China Plate Farm all have grand names based on their body markings, he decides to mark himself so he can have a grand name of his own, but nobody notices, as a new calf is being born on the farm.

Eleanor, Ellatony, Ellencake, and Me by [Cathy Rubin](#)

Various members of Eleanor's family give her different nicknames, but she finally tells them that she has decided on one of her own. Encourage children to talk about their own nicknames!

From Anne to Zach by Mary Jane Martin

In this rhyming alphabet book, the letter on each page features one short sentence introducing a child's name.

Let's Call Him Lau-Wiliwili-Humuhumu-Nukunuku-Nukunuku-Apua'a-Oi'Oi by [Tim Myers](#) and Daryl Arakaki

When two proud fish of different species marry and have a fish child, an argument erupts over what to name the child.

Matthew A. B. C. by [Peter Catalanotto](#)

Mrs. Tuttle, a kindergarten teacher, has 25 boys in her class, all named Matthew. She adds a letter of the alphabet to each of their names based on unusual special qualities about each boy. The ideas are funny and zany, especially when one more boy named Matthew is added to the class.

The Name Quilt by Phyllis Root

One of Sadie's favorite things to do when she visits her grandmother is to hear stories about the family members whose names are on a special quilt that Grandma had made, so Sadie is very sad when the quilt is blown away in a storm.

The Name of the Tree: A Bantu Folktale by Celia Barker Lottridge

When a drought spreads through the land of the short grass, the animals set out across the great plain to find food. Their only hope for survival is a tree with a variety of colorful fruit. The problem is its branches are too high. To reach them, the wise old turtle says, one must know the name of the tree, something to which only King Lion is privy. In this Bantu folktale retold by Celia Barker Lottridge, the hero is not the most cunning or the strongest but the one that tries the hardest.

Naming the Cat by Laurence P. Pringle

A family considers many possibilities before coming up with a name that is just right for the cat that has come to live with them.

A Porcupine Named Fluffy by [Helen Lester](#)

Fluffy's name is a source of sorrow to the sharp-quilled youngster, until he meets and befriends a rhinoceros named—Hippo! Introduce the story by showing children photos of fluffy things ([clouds](#), [cotton](#), [cotton candy](#)) a [porcupine](#), a [hippo](#) and a [rhinoceros](#).

FOR AGES 6 ON UP

Andy: That's My Name by [Tomie dePaola](#)

Andy's friends construct different words from his name: "an" words, "and" words, and "andy" words.

Ashok by Any Other Name by [Sandra S. Yamate](#)

Ashok is an Indian American boy who wishes he had a less ethnic, more "American" name. His experiments with new names create a variety of mishaps until he finally discovers just the right name for himself. A story for every immigrant or child of immigrants who struggles to be an American.

Call Me Little Echo Hawk by Terry EchoHawk

Every child has a name, and the story of Echo Hawk will motivate children everywhere to seek out stories about their own names. In "Call Me Little Echo Hawk," children will also learn to be proud of their heritage and their ancestors.

Christopher Changes His Name by Itah Sadu

Christopher Mulamba is tired of being one of three boys with the same first name in his class, so he picks out a series of new names honoring a variety of black heroes, from the star of his aunt's Trinidadian folktales to scientist Elijah McCoy to Michael Jordan, but in the process his own name gets lost.

The First Thing My Mama Told Me by Susan Marie Swanson

A young girl celebrates the name that was chosen just for her. "When I was born, the first thing my mama told me was my name". Lucy remembers lots of things about her name. Seven-year-old Lucy describes special memories about her name from each of her birthdays.

Hope by Isabell Monk

Isabell Monk's depiction of how a girl learns about her rich biracial heritage will help all children see themselves with pride and self-respect.

I Am Renè, the Boy by [Rene Colato Lainez](#)

When Renè learns that in the United States his name is also a girl's name, he does some research and relates the name's meaning and letters to his homeland of El Salvador and the things that make him special.

Ivan to Make You Laugh: Jokes about Novel, Nifty, and Notorious Names by Sam Schultz

Presents a variety of jokes about people's names.

Josephina Hates Her Name by Diana Engel

After Grandma explains that she named Josephina after her talented, daring older sister, Josephina starts to appreciate her unusual name.

A Lion Named Shirley Williamson by [Bernard Waber](#)

The lions at the zoo are jealous of the new lioness because of her fancy name and because of the special treatment she receives from the zookeeper.

Merry Christmas, What's Your Name by Bernice Chardiet

When a little girl changes her name to one she likes better, she starts a trend among her classmates that leads to complete confusion.

Mommy Doesn't Know My Name by [Suzanne Williams](#)

This loving and humorous story depicts frustrated Hannah, who tries to get her mother to call her by her real name rather than the pet names she uses.

My Name Is Yoon by Helen Recorvits

Disliking her name as written in English, Korean-born Yoon, or "shining wisdom," refers to herself as "cat," "bird," and "cupcake," as a way to feel more comfortable in her new school and new country.

Name Games: Using Children's Names to Link Oral Language and Print by Traci Ferguson Geiser

This teacher resource is rich in phonics and oral language practice. Each of the ten complete lesson cycles culminates in a unique bookmaking activity. Loaded with reproducibles, *Name Games* keeps teacher preparation time to a minimum.

The Name Jar by [Yangsook Choi](#)

Being the new kid in school is hard enough, but what about when nobody can pronounce your name? Having just moved from Korea, Unhei is anxious that American kids will like her. So instead of introducing herself on the first day of school, she tells the class that she will choose a name by the following week. Her new classmates are fascinated by this no-name girl and decide to help out by filling a glass jar with names for her to pick from.

Nutty Names: A Book of Name Jokes by Mark Ziegler

The only thing kids think is funnier than a good joke is... more good jokes! These supercharged joke books contain more jokes than ever. Get ready to laugh!

The Other Emily by Gibbs Davis

Emily believes her name belongs to her alone, but on the first day of school she discovers she is not the only Emily in the world.

A Perfect Name by Charlene Costanza

Mama and Papa Potamus try out many different names for their newborn daughter before finding just the right one in time for her naming ceremony. Mama and Papa Potamus try out many different names for their newborn daughter before finding just the right one in time for her naming ceremony.

Rumpelstiltskin by [Paul O. Zelinsky](#)

A strange little man helps the miller's daughter spin straw into gold. In this highly inventive and splendid rendering of a favorite Grimm fairy tale, award-winning storyteller and illustrator Paul O. Zelinsky evokes a world of Medieval magic.

Santa's Book of Names by [David McPhail](#)

A young boy who has trouble reading helps Santa with his yearly rounds and receives a special Christmas present.

Three Names of Me by Mary Cummings

A girl adopted from China explains that her three names--one her birth mother whispered in her ear, one the babysitters at her orphanage called her, and one her American parents gave her--are each an important part of who she is. Includes scrapbooking ideas for other girls adopted from China.

Tikki Tikki Tembo by Arlene Mosel

This story why the Chinese no longer honor their firstborn with an unusually long name such as "Tikki tikki tembo-no sa rembo- chari bari ruchi-pip peri pembo!" This re-creation of an ancient Chinese folktale has hooked legions of children, teachers, and parents, who return, generation after generation, to learn about the danger of having such an honorable name, especially when one falls into a well.