Name _____ Date _____

Before and after

Find the letter that comes next, before, or in a gap.

1 Learn



Every letter has **neighbours** in the alphabet! The letter just **before** it, and the letter just **after** it. The letter after is also called the **next** letter.



Before is back towards a. **After** is on towards z.

What comes before k?



1. Say the alphabet up to k: "…h, i, j, **k**".
2. Stop at k.
3. The letter you said just **before** k is **j**.

Flip's tip: to find the letter **after**, say the alphabet up to the letter, then say **one more**. To find the letter **before**, listen for the one you said just in front.

Warm up: what comes next?

a b c ☐

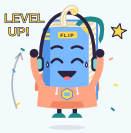
What comes before?

☐ e

Grown-ups: read Flip's words aloud. Use your fingers as a path: touch one finger for each letter as you say "h, i, j, k", then point back one finger for "before" and on one for "after".

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2 Try it together a child and a grown-up, about 10 minutes



Letter sandwich

You need: 10 small pieces of paper with one letter on each (or the letters from the alphabet line in Chapter 2), a cup or bowl, and a pencil.

1. Put the letters in the cup. Pick one out. This is the **filling** of your sandwich.
2. Say the letter just **before** it. That's the top slice of bread.
3. Say the letter just **after** it. That's the bottom slice.
4. Check by saying the alphabet together. Write your sandwich in the table.

Before (top bread)	Letter (filling)	After (bottom bread)

Grown-ups: if your child picks **a** or **z**, it's an open sandwich: nothing comes before a, and nothing comes after z! Then swap: you pick a letter and your child checks your sandwich.

3 Practise

A. What comes **next**? Write the letter.

d e f ☐ p q r ☐

l m n ☐ w x y ☐

Before and after

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B. What comes **before**?

☐	c	☐	m
☐	s	☐	h

C. Write the **missing** letter.

g ☐ i		o ☐ q	
t ☐ v		j ☐ l	

D. One letter has **sneaked in** where it doesn't belong. Draw a ring round it.

1. m n o x p
2. e f b g h
3. w x k y z

E. Put the letters in **alphabet order**.

c a b ☐☐☐

o m n ☐☐☐

t r s ☐☐☐

Challenge

Mia says, "The letter **before** m is n." Is she right? Say the alphabet to check.

_____

_____

I can... Tick when you can.

- ☐ say the letter that comes next
- ☐ say the letter that comes before
- ☐ find a missing letter in the alphabet