

**Team/Institution:**

**The Reading Sleuth Foundation, Non-Profit**

**[WWW.EPTRS.com](http://WWW.EPTRS.com)**

**Individual:**

**Leonard Bollingham, Owner/Teacher/Researcher**

**Application for the 2023 Khalifa International Award for Early Learning.**

**Best Initiatives in early learning care and education**

**Category: Best Research & Studies.**

**“The First Step: Game Zero”**

The first step in Early Development at whatever age they can make a match, which I have seen at 1.5 years in my Computer Science Office at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond: My daughter and inspiration Virginia Selma.



There is no simpler structure than a single symbol of the alphabet. There is no simpler task than to match that random symbol with another one just like it. I got b and d mixed up, but with a lot of practice I got them straight. Can it solve Dyslexia? Is the task oriented fun perfect for the autistic? I dont know, I still thought Levi's Jeans were Elvis Jeans. Thank Ya Very Much! I do know it was hours of quiet fun for months until I needed something new. Game 1: Pick a Letter. Then Game 2: Two Letter Words.

To be, or no to be? That is the question you can ask with a 2 letter word vocabulary. BE! Say the first letter Bbbb and the second Eeeee Put them together! You just read a word, BbbbEeee BE! You can read, and the rest is practice. That is the summary of this incredible tactic, that has the reader approaching new words without a fear or hesitation. They are not intimidated, they are looking for new words! They are Sleuthing words, topics, problems, and life.

Pattern Recognition, use it in every lesson if you can. The first task is language, to read, and write. No pressure but some are reading by 5, 4, and even 3 years old. It's all practice to make perfect. Kids are joining Mensa all over the world, but most are quietly achieving their own goals. Catch the wave, with The Greatest First Step, and The Reading Sleuths 2021. Build the Mind of the Dolphin or the proper Human Mind?

Background of the problems and solutions:

It is all about not overwhelming the very sensitive minds of the developing children. That is the biggest adjustment I could ask for from everyone, to slow down and simplify. I have been studying this since I was a kid making up these games to just keep having fun. I snuck up on being able to read without even knowing it. Along the way serious early development occurred along with some other unbelievable bonuses. I have pursued several sleuthing adventures, but on the back burner was always the considerations of how and what these games did. I honestly thought there would be great acceptance, but what I got was incredible undermining, and nearly all was lost so very many times. I just thank you for this chance to explain so much. I am keeping it simple, but at times I have to go to depths. The First Step Game Zero Lesson Plan is attached here and it might be a great idea to look at that first.

The first steps were taken seriously or even considered they would prove themselves in no time. I wanted to get the PhD and tried several times, but have not completed it. I have a great dissertation that was not ever published, and wasn't needed by the Belford Evaluation team. Without the PhD I went right to the organizations like Churches, Charities, Home-Schooling, and Teachers to get the Reading Sleuth ball rolling in 2010. I have never tried for an award as I have stayed in my Industrial pursuits. I have all the research but without solid acceptance it will be a waste of time to even try. I have so many examples of events I have experienced which seem so strange but at the same time described by researchers who are working with Dolphins. So how do we develop the mind properly? How do we avoid messing it up? I have found "we keep it simple and slow". The pace is independently controlled by every sleuth.

It is literally the most important advancement out of the dark ages that humanity has ever realized. The impact is phenomenal for those that have given up on reading, or are slow to even get started. No matter how great a person reads there are problems which these Reading Sleuth tactics can help. Everyone can be a better reader, and the key is PROPER EARLY DEVELOPMENT! Usually they have already retreated to a defensive position I call shut by or even wrecked by too much, complicated structure or content, way too fast. This is a topic of research, and relaxing the mind, to trust and advance a simple and slow, very critical system of symbols really puts the mind on track.

Overview of the Current Situation:

When does early development start? Easy: At Birth. Yes Biological Development is immediate but how and when can we grab hold and steer it efficiently and effectively? What can the 1 to 2 year old do? They are starting to walk and talk, but its very basic. The mind however, is growing fast and way ahead of the body. This has been the problem: Developing the mind of the child means engaging them. Showing them colors while they chew on a building block or lego is not an effective engagement.

I have been teaching, learning, and giving away and arguing for these concepts. I am in awe and elation at this opportunity. I so hope I can help you understand. You might see some rants that appear random, but they are highly practiced to get to the problems that are attacking these advancements and me personally and professionally. Just since this Christmas there seems to have been a real awakening to a possible concerted turnaround or at least serious consideration of alternative explanations. I am trying to take advantage of this award window.

I am looking at my development and experiences, and this Forum by the Khalifa team gives the

world a chance to voice opportunities in an open call orientation with specific respect to teaching, curriculum, and research. This is not a controlled group of like minded wonks trying to make sense of the wreck they are giving band aids which do more harm than good. Everything we know is wrong, horribly falls short, and we can turn it all on a dime with a first step that is effective and makes sense. It is no ones fault, it is a result of hurried advancement which only then allows us to examine all we know historically. We have done incredibly well, and I realize no one wants to mess it up. That is why it must be simple, and so correct as the mind has protected itself defensively. A ray of sunshine opens the flower? Can we relax this protection, to heal and develop properly? I can say DEFINITELY! If the mind suffers some affront: Go right back to Game Zero. It repairs, rebuilds, relaxes, and is a cleaning restart while possibly doing so much more.

That said, the current situation was bleak at best. However, there are so many forms of slow confident effective and efficient advancement that the minds of humanity are helping each other at levels we never imagined. Consciously we have reached the point of this Forum because Inquiring Minds want to know what the heck is going on! The kids are rocking! You don't have to tell them twice. The only real issue is that they are breezing past the Game Zero developments in order to get to reading. There was a commercial where the kids were all working in a garage like 5 years old, and one slams the phone down and says "We Have Gone Public!" YEAH they all cheer. Everyone wants to be a millionaire! Me too! I took AI in 1987 to understand Expert Systems and every single system I have created is run by an Expert System. The toughest part? Get to the most atomic basic tiniest level and first step of a problem that poses itself. We need a fair look at these incredible advances, observations, and research. Your award is the spotlight of all time.

The biggest hope for this Forum is that we slow it down a tad, and dwell on the structure of the minds systems to effectively store and retrieve information. There may be several ways to help the mind. This one tiny start is so hugely impactful there is literally a Renaissance Explosion of Art and Science since the 70s when I first started. How can we quantify this across all areas of the process? The quite kids: Bam!

The way have developed forces the mind to make the best of a horrific situation. All the statistics are measured while everyone is wrecked except for some sinister forces that have made some advancements from the wreckage. It is like a mosh pit of strange advances or tons of overwhelming tactics. We Slow Down, Keep It Simple, but learn the alphabet in any language so the mind can know what is coming pretty much for the rest of your life. It is a huge upside potential from learning the alphabet, the first digit of numbers, 0-9, and punctuation marks. We are basically very decent and we realize everyone is a kid of all ages trying to get a bit of a good start or restart. I really focus on new readers and Early Development not Recovery and ReDevelopment, but I have so many examples of both.

A door is shut, overwhelmed, scared, confused, stormed, and suddenly a kid is sitting in the middle of your mind doing nothing but waiting for proper paced instruction. We need to get that child back on the job! That is what my entire system is about, and Game Zero is critical to the perfect start. Make a wrong turn, and go right back to Game 0. Every different start creates a different structure of mind handling things so differently. We can take this Forum to find the best start now, and also inspire better starts or better steps after this Game? I suspect the Khalifa and others are seeing some underground swells of great new minds? I just hope its time. I am the kid waiting for the world to give it a try officially while tons are waiting for the instructions. We are about to make changes real and effective! So get ready because here come the naysayers and they are adamant. Only with careful presentation along with easy honest consideration can we advance as a humanity.

A kid is sitting there still and quiet at 1 to 5? Impossible but lets just imagine. You show them that is a newspaper out the trash or a magazine tossed that there are matches of the symbols and walk away. At their own pace they are learning self motivation and so much more. A lady of 70 stopped reading as a teen, but in a few minutes she was reading again? By saying the word two letters at a time all long sounds like Game 2 the older nontraditional kids. Suddenly with just that tactic and her spoken vocabulary she was reading slowly and crying tears of joy. A dad comes home to quiet from 6 kids? What happened no fighting, who died? Wife: They are reading, shoosh. It takes 3 minutes to teach them Game Zero. Take their hands and show them. This will prep them for school. I had no clue how to explain, but teachers now understand. My first grade teacher told me she could tell how I taught myself by how I pronounced everything. One little girl asked me What Language Is That? Mortified, but hey I had a blast and learned how to say the words right with a pocket dictionary I recommend at about 5. I never read aloud, so who knew? It was hilarious. Everyone laughed, hey I am good with that it needs to be fun! The fun was articulating the sound you thought needed to be made, then trying to figure the words. Listening to other people talk and trying to figure how to spell those words? It is a game you never stop playing across other languages.

In short, I have been working at every level since I was a kid because this is good stuff. I remember everything but it might take a bit of time for me to get to it. One example: Our memory is vast, and if you are searching a 5 Gig Thumbdrive its a few seconds. You try to search a 5 TerraByte external drive and it takes a while. Relax and let your mind develop properly at a new “slow and simple makes sense” pace. The mind is playing catch-up your entire life until it just collapses. Mine has not, and I have really taken on some epic tasks. I have tons of odd research sort of like with Water, or Grand Unification the real telltale events are anomalies. Lets really share, and this is how we start.

I can give you tons of examples, but maybe if I win and can present? Now that we are failed as an entire humanity running out of water and air, choked by smog and carbon, food all tainted with whatever folks are like: OK, we are ready to listen! Sometimes it takes a total wrecking? Not if we were smart, and not hurt so bad. Still we make the best of it, and I mean NOW. There are tons working on these concepts, and there has not been a single documented specific complaint. Just general nonsense which is slowly being totally ignored. I would like to say ALL ABOARD, let's advance but slowly. I say slow but a month for each game and in 6 months its on! Kids are going inside for the harsh winter in some countries and coming out Reading, and with a basic structure for development going on too.

In computer science with respect to Expert Systems: The expert jumps past a million steps in their process to the final decisions. That is what we have been doing. We must go to the atomic tiniest step of the process, and this takes time to figure out. Step One Game Zero is set, but lets talk the next step and outside that first stalk how do we blossom? There is a ton of work there, and I have a ton myself. Most skip right past Game 0. They can read great and maybe that is enough, but I was asked there was still something missing from my first published system. I have tried but am more judged on the stalled ventures and investments that everyone calls failures. I am still topnotch in every area of endeavor because I know it will come under scrutiny. Like my Blowout Simulation Thesis: I said I could detect Blowouts? The Schlumberger Professor said it as an extra credit joke and didn't believe mine worked. We ran a 1000 data sets and he plotted one he knew by hand: Perfect! I got a B and there were no tests? They used my program for studies, grants, and in industry. I told him I could spot from the data when the blowout hit and stop drilling in seconds. This stops the reservoir from being opened up to greater flow and is critical. He said Ridiculous. I was sure they used it, but no he really

thought impossible? That was 1987 and so many blowouts later no one would help. I still try. I am so far ahead in everything and I attribute it to the early development of my mind. There was a pattern recognition IQ Test, and I didn't miss any. They gave me a 114? Maybe you have one that is honest? So I tucked those achievements away in my bag of tools. I explained the annular tactic, but I didn't say "Instantly" as I wanted a job. No one would even give me a try, but I did get with Mobil as a Facility Engineer. I developed the SMART Tank expert system driven well control. Yawn, the critics fall asleep. We are advancing! Game Zero!

These Reading Sleuth Games protect the pace of learning, and the complexity. As a kid I was keenly aware of what hurt me. So I was very slow and at 60 I am still giving it out free and defending every single innovation across 100 different reading sleuth adventure topics in math, science, engineering, technology, and art. How slow am I? Actually I am so fast, but we are very protective of our minds but maybe still not enough. Literally this is a hospital setting for a forum to heal and advance while inspiring research. We are talking to a House of Commons in a panic, and we need to make perfect simple sense.

Keeping the mind engaged! The future is bright and advancements are endless because I have concentrated on my tiny version. Teachers are infusing these concepts into their lesson plans, tweaking them to be simpler and at a more controlled pace. The very slow pace of the struggling manual dexterity at one is more reason to go slow with this a pace controller. Then when the mind is full of food for thought the kids literally take a nap. I am not joking, I am talking power napping! So cute. Teach them to take breaks because they refuse to stop. They are not making a sound, they are sitting still. Is this some kind of dream? The examples are hilarious and wonderful. The passive learning is tremendous too.

This Game is literally a miracle. There is nothing else close. A book with big letters and maybe pictures but not necessarily. I would play a couple times on one page and then turn the page. Wow that was so nice like I was reading like everyone else. If you saw me breezing past all the words and sentences looking for a Q or Z or whatever it looked like I was speed reading. It also engages the parent in the development of the budding mind. This is no joke as the parent sees the kids GOING PUBLIC one of these days! When I was asked about there being something more to the Reading Sleuth Games, and I thought Game ZERO? Its silly! No one has asked for any more games since I presented it in the PDF a few months after the AuthorHouse Publication of "The L.A. Reading Technique". I was the expert that jumped right past the first critical step. We can take that step carefully together across all vocations and areas of study. That is why we need to go slow. We improve how the mind stores and retrieves, it allows for so much more to be done with greater efficiency. It seems to be Science Fiction that there are things we can do but don't at all because we are swamped with the biggest problem of our lives: LANGUAGE. We are doing this, and this Forum can turn a huge section of the older population around. Without even knowing it we are doing better as a humanity. Can we do other things better with this disk operating system tweak or patch? I have a ton of research, but let us please stick to Game Zero and Step 1.

Game Zero takes minimal motor skills, and actually hones hand/eye coordination. You will notice the children are engaged and really loving it.. My research has been all about various developmental stages, but imagine no one has ever seen the correct stages and successes of proper development. I concentrate on Game 0 because I did not have this in the first book about reading. I don't know if this game helps reading if the kids know the alphabet already. There has to be a decision made to start with this game so that the maximum interest is tweaked with every tiny learning advance. I do not over teach and the kids get every Ah Ha moment of excitement.



It is constant positive feedback and learning, but some letters might not have a match. If I didn't see a match on the two pages I went to the next page and started a new game. Some letters are Loners and just don't have a match. I mentioned passive learning but the mind is way ahead of these games. They start seeing words a bunch and can't wait to learn more. Sentences and Paragraphs all look so interesting in Time. Right now can I buy a Vowel? There are so many avenues of deep thinking it is amazing. If the rest of the system is used along with other tactics the new reader will be reading words in 6 months if they play each game for a month. I would let them play Game 0 until they asked for another game as they knew all the symbols. Let's learn every letter's name now but that is Game 1. Right now it's just learning every curve and shape of every character and friend you are going to spend a lifetime with reading and writing great stories.

We can change the world, and quick. The difference is like a light came on and it's Sunny versus Darkness. There has been no complaint about this system, just quiet advancement. Khalifa you represent literally the first such award for seeking answers to Early Development and Promising Areas of Research and Study! Everyone is in the same boat, the sensitivity of the mind has never been understood. The mind can get overwhelmed so fast, and the best solution is back to zero, centered, balanced, safe, and happy with Game Zero.

There are the additional games too. You may have seen systems that teach using 2 letter words, but they have not been used with the structures of Game 0 in place. This first step might help every learning system for development and learning. There are a ton of particulars in this system I have not shared, and my thoughts were not to over teach. I just presented it free, and everyone seems to be looking for a better way. It is so simple and instantly effective that the success is undeniable. It takes one minute to show this game to a child. My daughter was one and a half about 18 months when she was trying to find me behind her mom from side to side. Very interesting critical thinking, so I showed her Game 0 and she was off to the races! Literally running from slide to swing to slide at the park. It made her feel perhaps that she was really doing something fun and important.

What Is EARLY? My answer is THE FIRST STEP. Game Zero. The First Sign of Thinking, Problem Solving, Analysis. A plan, an overall hope with results proven already, and a ton of research still required. Animals start simply and slow, but the key is how do we go into Abstract Language Etc efficiently and effectively? This is so completely different it is literally a breath of fresh air, direction, and massive upside potential. I try not to over teach, as the Ah Ha moments are priceless. The children are tiny and thinking. This promotes serious activity. The mind gets excited, and so do the children. I am not the best indicator because I was so careful. The Sleuths today are just a new level of incredible grammatical artists and word smith poets. I never trusted grammar and was literally terrified that I had done something so different it might be wrong? So over the years thought English, Literature, and Computer Science I have studied these games along with my programming and other homework. I never missed a point, and I think these games really helped.

The kids are so excited and at the same time are being very quiet. It is with this award mention or placing that new ideas can get global attention and scrutiny. I come from a wealth of computing efficiency with the belief that if a tactic can work very well with a computer then perhaps the brain can see some similar sort of efficiency improvement? It is worth researching because it is proven with computing measures of Space and Time.

I have taught at every level, and been asked by so many people direct questions. I just don't like to over teach, promise too much, or set up folks to feel less than they might on their own. I would rather every day be a pleasant surprise, but lots want instant success? This is a building block system

that involves a lot of work. Life literally wrecks things constantly, and so I am playing Game 0 to rebuild rest and relax, meditate, and get back to a focused center just about ever month.

We should look at Dolphins who can stay up for days, develop 4 lobes instead of two, and seem to have great connectivity across all lobes. I do not want to give away all of my research at this time, but I will say there are a ton of great examples of better development in nature. We stay up for days and we start taking medication, it could be the shark chasing us or stress. We might be working right instead of it being a problem. There are so many examples of this. Also, I have mapped so many problems to things that might not happen with a properly developed mind? It is worth the paper or 10 on Neural Networks as a Psych Fraud was pulled on me, and not true at all. Was it to undermine my mind with a smear and fraud campaign? The key is to see how much stellar work I have achieved.

I have been in a war in Louisiana especially since running for Governor in 2011. I have some great answers, but lots of folks like their time tested disastrous calamities in the making. The kids though realize there is nothing competing with a 1 year olds time. They will play this game all day and work past so many issues. Its why I stress alternating hands to give one a rest. Also it works both sides of the brain and both hands.

When you look me up on Google you find everything that is pretended, and some responses even in Films I have created to practice for THE READING SLEUTHS WATER SYSTEMS ADVENTURE and VECTORIZED GRAND UNIFICATION. The adversaries / antagonists are thick as thieves. Development of the mind out of the dark ages is a major league war it seems.

I could put the film schools on the CV? The films? I think I will. I have submitted to several Film Festivals to get people to look at my websites and try the games. They act like they are taking the early, middle and late developmental stages of the Mind so very careful and serious. Only to keep the status quo. I say this because I have heard it all for 50 years since I was 10. I am so far past everything I can only explain with innovations and hard work. However, things are developing nicely in the last 10 years. I went to Cannes, and would like to go back. A Reading Sleuth Adventure in Sleuthing or any of the 100 top sleuthing adventures in Science and Math all works of Art! The Water Systems is so pressing. We would be in Cannes next year to really showcase Game 0 and the Khalifa Award possibly.

In Summary,

Covid put everyone at home trying to figure a way to cope and still advance. Kids can get ahead with this system. The world has changed sand the severity only get worse with every mutation. Can you imagine an immune system that we need to develop to a certain level of mental ability before it can even work right? There is one active I suspect, and I am working it just fine. Can our mind heal us, if we only develop properly? I cannot tell you all I have been through, but I am not sick that much. Very quick to heal, and just keep trying to share. This is a set way to start that First Most Important Step, and one way to approach new words, vocabularies, and even languages. It does not mean you cant learn several or make up your own! I had 100 games to play, and picked 4 to read in the first book, and then added 0, and 1 in the PDF that next year by popular request.

I personally treat the Mind like a Black Box and don' care how it works exactly. I have some clues but it is not at this time to discuss. With research we might figure out a better way, but this is a better way than piling anything and everything on to cause a collapse later in life. Build a foundation of symbols, two letter words you can use as building blocks perhaps? Then you can learn whole words, the usage, tenses, definitions, and pronunciation. They keep it simple, and let the sleuth pile it on slow.



The Baby Step: One Match of two similar symbols. Watch how the child gets so excited and will every time. It is constant positive reinforcement of start, toil, and finish strong. Job Well Done! Next Rep! The parents go wild. I don't know when they can start, try and show it to them. They might just like to hold a book and look at it. They might make up their own games? No rush, let them play at their pace. Your award mentions problems even the handicapped. I just cannot describe all I have experienced but I read tons to find similar experiences. I relate to the Autistic, and how they are so task oriented. The research harps on finding what is wrong. Imagine it is caused by horrific tactics of treachery, and can be repaired with time?

I am careful not to make promises, as they are attacked to be wrecked and proven wrong. I do not have the 4 questions and sub questions? I will compare the Game 0 with other activities for young children.

Alternatives to Game Zero:

Constantly telling the kids to chill, still, and please quiet.

Playing with blocks? Upside: NONE. Learning: NONE. Waste of time. They eat the blocks. I am not biased as you cannot be actively engaged with thinking about blocks. Really I tried.

Kid at 1 have limited muscle control, and walk but need hand eye coordination practice. GAME ZERO BAM! Upside: The child learns the most critical and simplest information: The Symbols of the Alphabet and even Punctuation and Numbers all at their own pace.

The conclusion:

A kid sees a billion books, the mind has a tree structure of some sort with each symbol/node that makes up every word. Perhaps even the two letter combinations for each symbol with a sound attached? Later every word in a tree structure? We dont care how, but the mind is doing it better than ever if we just give it what it needs. We train our mind, and it will support us like an IT guy or gal. So much more but this is the basics and start. Reading? What is it? At its most atomic step it is combining two letters to make one sound. The articulation and thought that goes into saying two letters, and figuring out the word by combining two letter cars into a train of two letter sounds: Genius Building! Do not underestimate this investment in very slow, simple, and independent investigation and discovery. It leads to problem solving and pattern recognition skills being honed along with so much more. Critical and Analytical Thinking, Logic, and so many muscle skills for hand eye coordination.

I must add that I realize this is all from left field a long shot without the normal credentials, but realize I felt I had a lot to accomplish and I have spent a million hours on these games, the mind, and how to make them better. The games by the time I wrote them and published them were 45 years old and honed. The mind: We are still learning, but I have some great ideas. This Forum will share these tactics with everyone that has never heard of this.

I would also like to add what this award would mean to a kid from nowhere who taught himself to read, and stumbled on an Early Developmental Wonder! If I won this award, I would try for a Facility Engineering or Data Science job there and am already. Since I am going to be there I might need a work visa, but I spoke with a Consultant once out of Norway that was helping a country there

with about 2500 wells on Pumpjack. Perhaps I could work from here, but my daughter is 23 and could go there. There is so much history there I only know from the library. It would be the first actual credibility in my life. I am tapped fully invested broke ripped off of even my personal stuff. Try not to imagine how I understand undermining.

My summer reading library program accounts from the late 60s and early 70s are on my Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/lennyalanb>, and the first 21 pics are my Story Board for my Reading Sleuths Adventure in Water Systems. I have 1000 adventures, and the top 100 are absolute works of scientific art! I make films as a Programmer/Digital Editor, and I have been to Cannes in 2008 and hope to go again. Lets make a feature about The Reading Sleuth and Khalifa Group Team up in an Early Development Adventure!

Thank you so much for this opportunity to upgrade my application. I would rather be in Curriculum and have a draft of the pretty much the same stuff. I have always felt like a researcher nearly finishing the PhD with tons of topics and papers ready. After careful thought I tried a second submission but there is only one per year. I try in Research and Studies, but have the draft. The video should be just Game 0, as there was some editing done to the 4<sup>th</sup> one I loaded that is not mine. Everyone undermines the system for not saying words right, but it is independent and simple. The particulars of rules and exceptions can be added. The tiny developing mind does not need Pictures/Words/Definitions like Trapezoid etc. They need simple hand eye, and tiny bits of critical data. I feel like we are in the Zone to Advance Humanity! Let's get it done! We are talking Herd Advancement with so many sleuthing minds globally. Let us catch that wave and not miss it! Thanks Sincerely With All My HEART SOUL BODY and MIND!

**GAME ZERO and The Reading Sleuths 2021!**  
**Lets get the 21<sup>st</sup> Century started properly,**  
**Thank you so very much Team Khalifa.**

## Appendix: Game Zero.

### The Reading Sleuths 2021

It has been 10 years, and tons of Readers young and old are rocking the planet! Let's formalize some of the concepts and reign in the masses while we discuss exactly what we are up to these days.

Game Zero is designed to let the new reader using any language, become familiar with the alphabet. One symbol at a time. In this game they will be so excited every single time they find one of their Uppercase, Lowercase, Numbers, or Punctuation pairs. They will learn to find them all over like road signs, magazines, newspapers, books, etc. This is basic pattern recognition but also it is preparing the mind for these types of associated data sets by simply the symbol.

In a month they are ready for game one, but no pressure let them play. They are developing the skills they need to do so many great things. Their mind is growing faster than their coordination that is developing. Perhaps they will one day recognize the patterns of for instance a chess game whose summary of positions can be improved or reduced. They can also go back and spend another bit of time on letters they do not remember the first time around. Use the alphabet song to allow them to realize that each letter has a name in the song. However, at 1 or 2 they do not need to know the names of the symbols or anything else. They don't even have to speak, but they might want to alternate hands so that they do not wear out.

It is the simplest and most effective start ever, and builds a foundation of excitement, discovery, and confidence.

#### Game 0:

##### Random Match

Show the child a letter with one index finger, and then search for a match with the other. Perhaps they can't find a match? It's a loner type of symbol? No problem. Start over with another random pick maybe using the other hand? They instantly have success, and every time get fired up. They are cracking the code! They are playing with books, they are learning the letters and words without even knowing it. They are noticing sentence structure and paragraphs. Later they will recognize words they have passed so many times.

Mark off the letters you find matches for, when you are so good it at that you are thinking about going to the next game. No rush as I didn't know the names of the letters until I started talking at 2! There are 3 year olds winning summer reading programs and even joining Mensa! It may not be from just this game, but it sure is helping. Create that index of symbols the mind needs to efficiently store and use the language.

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee  
Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj  
Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo  
Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt  
Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy  
Zz.

(Try to draw the letter in your notepad.)