

# A Guide to Using Alphabet Apple™ Tree



FUNDAMENTALS OF LEARNING

VTECH®

**Dear Parent,**

You know how important learning the fundamentals is to your child's future. No matter what path your child takes - all-star third baseman, doctor or computer programmer - fundamental skills are the building blocks to success.

As a parent, you take the most critical role in establishing an active learning environment. And because play consumes so much of a child's day, toys are a very important part of that environment. That's why **VTech®** developed the **FUNDamentals of Learning** system - an integrated line of products created by teams of cutting-edge toy designers in conjunction with accomplished teachers. Each learning toy focuses on one of three key subject areas: Reading, Math or Language.

The curriculum content of each toy (the teaching part) is keyed to the child's age and ability level. Each toy's appealing design and stimulating, interactive play (the cutting-edge toy part) puts the FUN into fundamentals.

The **VTech®** multi-sensory approach engages diverse learning styles (auditory, visual, tactile) while reinforcing and complementing the subject matter the child is learning, or will learn, in school. This productive play fills a child with confidence and pride, as well as a lifelong love of learning.

For 25 years, millions of parents have trusted **VTech®** with the most important job in the world, helping their children learn and grow. We appreciate that. And we look forward to continuing to nurture the development of young minds.

Sincerely,

Your friends at **VTech®**

To learn more about the FUNDamentals of Learning system and other **VTech®** toys, visit [www.vtechkids.com](http://www.vtechkids.com).

# ALPHABET APPLE™ TREE

ACTIVITY SELECTOR

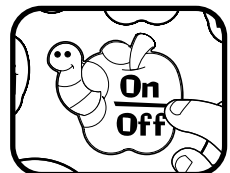
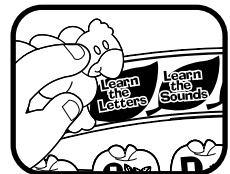
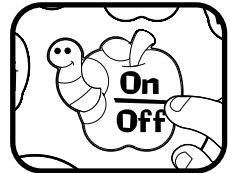
LETTER BUTTONS



ON/OFF BUTTON

## TO BEGIN PLAY

1. To begin play, press the **ON/OFF** button. You will hear a sound effect followed by “Hello!”
2. Slide the activity selector left and right to select one of the five activities. A friendly voice will guide you through each of the following activities:
  - A. Learn the Letters
  - B. Learn the Sounds
  - C. Find It
  - D. Before and After
  - E. Music
3. To turn the learning toy **OFF**, press the **ON/OFF** button again. You will hear “Bye-bye,” followed by a sound effect.



# ALPHABET APPLE™ TREE ACTIVITIES

## ACTIVITY 1 – LEARN THE LETTERS

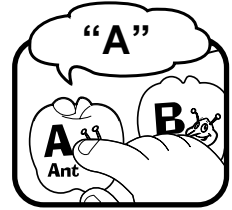
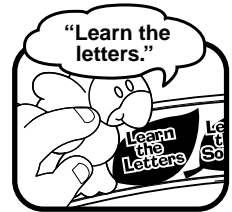
This activity allows your child to practice identifying the 26 letters of the alphabet. As your child presses a letter button, he or she will hear the friendly voice identify the letter.

**Learning Benefits for Your Child** - The Learn the Letters activity is presented to introduce your child to the 26 letters of the alphabet. Your child may explore at his or her own pace by choosing which letters to press. There are no specific instructions telling your child which button to press. This free exploration is very inviting and encourages your child to take risks by pressing letters he or she may not be too familiar with.

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### ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Slide the activity selector to “Learn the Letters.” You will hear a short tune and the friendly voice will introduce the activity by saying, “Learn the letters.”
2. When any letter button is pressed, the letter’s name will be identified. For example, when you press the letter “A” button, you will hear the corresponding letter name “A.”



### How Can You Help?

- Encourage your child to find the beginning letter of his or her name as well as other names of family members. Ask your child to think of his or her friends names or favorite toys, animals, etc. and guide your child in finding the beginning letters of those words using the letter buttons on the learning toy.
  - Write some letters of the alphabet down on paper and encourage your child to find the matching letter using the letter buttons on the learning toy. After your child presses the letter button and hears the name of the letter, ask him or her what letter it was.
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# ALPHABET APPLE™ TREE ACTIVITIES

## ACTIVITY 2 - LEARN THE SOUNDS

**Learning Benefits for Your Child** - This activity teaches the sounds of the consonants and vowels. Your child will hear the correct pronunciation of each letter sound. He or she will recognize that the vowels A, E, I, O and U can make two different sounds, both long and short. Everytime your child presses a letter button, the friendly voice will tell your child the sound(s) that the letter makes.

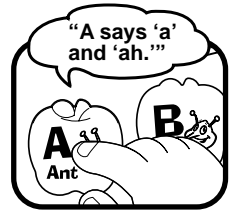
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### ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Slide the activity selector to “Learn the Sounds.” You will hear a short tune and the friendly voice will introduce the activity by saying, “Learn the letter sounds.”



2. When any letter button is pressed, the letter will be pronounced followed by the phonetic sound. For example, press the letter “A” button and you will hear, “A says ‘a’ and ‘ah.’”



### How Can You Help?

- Encourage your child to say the letter sounds along with the learning toy. Your child could practice by saying, “The name of the letter is B. the sound of the letter is ‘buh.’”
  - This skill takes lots of practice. Remember to remain positive and praise your child when he or she can tell you the sound of a given letter.
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# ALPHABET APPLE™ TREE ACTIVITIES

## ACTIVITY 3 - FIND IT

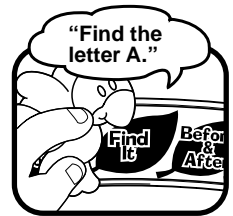
This activity reinforces letter identification and letter sounds. The friendly voice will ask your child to find a certain letter or letter sound. Your child must rely on the skills presented in the previous activities in order to play this activity.

**Learning Benefits for Your Child** - The Find It activity is presented to familiarize your child with the 26 letters of the alphabet and their phonetic sounds.

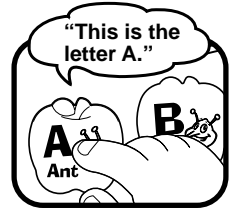
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### ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Slide the activity selector to “Find It.” You will hear a short tune. Then the friendly voice will ask a random question. For example, you will hear “Find the letter A,” or “Find the letter which says ‘ah.’”



2. Find the answer by pressing a letter button. The friendly voice will identify the name or phonics sound of the pressed button. For example, you will hear “This is the letter A.” Or, “A says ‘A’ and ‘ah.’”



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### How Can You Help?

- Write some letters of the alphabet down on paper and encourage your child to find the matching letter on the learning toy.
  - Create a list together with your child of words that begin with each of the letters of the alphabet. You may want to create a booklet for your child with these words. Devote a page to each letter of the alphabet.
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# ALPHABET APPLE™ TREE ACTIVITIES

## ACTIVITY 4 - BEFORE AND AFTER

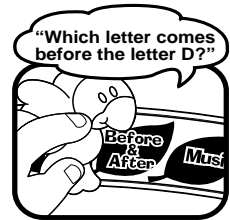
This activity strengthens alphabetical order skills. Your child will recognize that the letters of the alphabet are arranged in a certain order. He or she will have opportunities to tell which letter comes before or after certain letters. Your child will be asked specific questions such as, “Which letter comes before the letter B?” He or she will then have the opportunity to look at the letter buttons and find that letter.

**Learning Benefits for Your Child** - The Before and After activity is designed to familiarize your child with the alphabet. Your child will also be taught the concepts of before and after. This activity provides opportunities for your child to identify letters of the alphabet on his or her own.

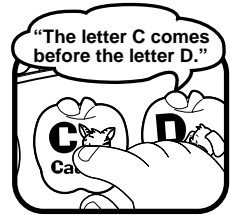
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### ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Slide the activity selector to “Before and After.” You will hear a short tune. Then the friendly voice will ask a question about letter order. For example, you will hear “Which letter comes before the letter D?,” or “Which letter comes after the letter B?”



2. Find the answer by pressing a letter button. The friendly voice will identify the letter sequence of the button that was pressed. For example, you will hear “The letter C comes before the letter D,” or “The letter C comes after the letter B.”



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#### How Can You Help?

- While your child is playing the activity, encourage him or her to look at the letters while making his or her decision about the answer. Have your child tell you why he or she is choosing a certain letter for his or her answer.
- Talk about “before” and “after” regard to events that have occurred throughout the day. For instance, ask your child, “What did you do before lunch?,” Or “What do we usually do after dinner?”

# ALPHABET APPLE™ TREE ACTIVITIES

## ACTIVITY 5 - MUSIC

This activity enables your child to enhance his or her listening skills by following directions in order to play various songs.

**Learning Benefits for Your Child** – The Music activity provides your child with an opportunity to have some fun while enhancing his or her creative skills! Following directions and listening are encouraged in this activity.

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### ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Slide the activity selector to “Music.” You will hear a short tune. Then the friendly voice will say “Press a button.” Choose the melodies by pressing any letter button.

There are nine fun melodies:

- And The Green Grass Grew All Around
- Here We Go Round The Mulberry Bush
- Frog Went A’Courtin
- Camptown Races
- My Bonnie Lies Over The Ocean
- The Old Grey Mare
- Lavender’s Blue
- Goosey, Goosey, Gander
- The Alphabet Song



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#### How Can You Help?

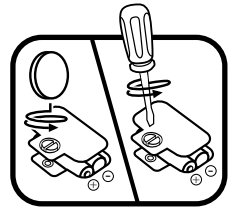
- Provide plenty of time for your child’s creative exploration. Have your child try to think of new words that go along with the melody of the song. Have your child share his or her new creation with others.
  - Have your child draw or paint a picture about the song. Your child may wish to draw or paint a series of pictures that describe the song.
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# ALPHABET APPLE™ TREE BATTERIES

## BATTERY INSTALLATION

1. Make sure the unit is off.
2. Locate the battery cover on the bottom of the unit. Use a coin or screwdriver to open the battery cover. Install 2 new “AA” (UM-3/LR6) batteries following the diagram inside the battery box. (The use of new, alkaline batteries is recommended for maximum performance.)
3. Replace the battery cover and tighten the screw to secure the battery cover.



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## BATTERY NOTICE

- Install batteries correctly observing the polarity (+, -) signs to avoid leakage.
- Do not mix old and new batteries.
- Do not use batteries of different types.
- Remove exhausted or new batteries from the learning toy when it will not be used for an extended period of time.
- Do not dispose of batteries in fire.
- Do not attempt to recharge ordinary batteries.
- The supply terminals are not to be short-circuited.

**WE DO NOT RECOMMEND THE USE OF RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES.**

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# ALPHABET APPLE™ TREE BATTERIES

## AUTOMATIC SHUT-OFF

To preserve battery life, the **ALPHABET APPLE™ TREE** learning toy will turn off automatically after one minute without input. The unit can be turned on again by pressing the On/Off button.

**NOTE:** If for some reason the program/activity stops working, then please follow these steps:

1. Please turn the unit off.
2. Interrupt the power supply by removing the batteries.
3. Let the unit stand for a few minutes, then replace the batteries.
4. Turn the unit on. The unit will now be ready to play again.

If the problem persists, please call our Consumer Services Department at 1-800-521-2010 in the U.S., 1-800-267-7377 in Canada or 01235-546810 in the U.K..

**WARNING:** All packing materials such as tape, plastic sheets, wire ties and tags are not part of this toy and should be discarded for your child's safety.

# ALPHABET APPLE™ TREE MAINTENANCE

## CARE AND MAINTENANCE (continued)

1. Keep the unit clean by wiping it with a slightly damp cloth.
2. Keep the unit out of direct sunlight and away from any direct heat source.
3. Remove the batteries when the unit is not in use for an extended period of time.
4. Do not drop the unit on hard surfaces and do not expose the unit to moisture or water.

### IMPORTANT NOTE:

Creating and developing the Fundamentals of Leading product line is accompanied by a responsibility that we at **VTECH®** take very seriously. We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information which forms the value of our products. However, errors sometimes can occur. It is important for you to know that we stand behind our products and encourage you to call our Consumer Services Department at 1-800-521-2010 in the U.S., 1-800-267-7377 in Canada, or 01235-546810 in the U.K.. with any problems and/or suggestions that you might have. A service representative will be happy to help you.

**NOTE:** This equipment generates and uses radio frequency energy and if not installed and used properly, that is, in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, it may cause interference to radio and television reception. It has been type tested and found to comply within the limits for a Class B computing device in accordance with the specifications in Sub-part J of Part 15 FCC Rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against such interference in a residential installation. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

1. Reorient the receiving antenna.
2. Relocate this product with respect to the receiver.
3. Move this product away from the receiver.

# Look for these additional products in the Fundamentals of Learning product line



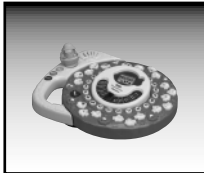
**Alphabet Apple™**  
3 years and up  
80-26800



**Flip For Phonics™**  
3-5 years  
80-29100



**Bubble Gum Phonics  
Fun™**  
4-6 years  
80-41300



**Fishing for Phonics™**  
4-6 years  
80-39500



**Alphabet The Ready  
to Read Robot™**  
4-6 years  
80-29400



**Get A Grip!™ Phonics**  
4-8 years  
80-41400

**Our helpful Consumer Services staff  
is available to answer product  
questions and to assist in finding  
the retailer nearest you**

**USA**  
**1-800-521-2010**  
**www.vtechkids.com**

**CANADA**  
**1-800-267-7377**  
**www.vtechcanada.com**

**UK**  
**01235-546810**  
**www.vtechuk.com**

