Yes or No

Materials: Alphabet strip

Guide: Teacher writes the alphabet on the board or on a piece of paper.

Say – I am thinking of a letter. I want you to try and guess the letter. You can ask me questions about the letter. I can only answer with ‘yes’ or ‘no’. Let’s see if you can guess the letter in less than \_\_\_\_ questions. [This number should decrease with practice.]

Students begin to ask questions about the letter. The teacher encourages students to ask questions that will eliminate several letters at a time. Questions such as, “Is it a vowel?” or “Is it made of only lines?” will eliminate several letters at a time. The teacher helps students rephrase questions that will require more than an answer of “yes” or “no”.

As students eliminate letters, the teacher crosses the letters off on the board or piece of paper. Teacher records the number of questions taken in order to guess the letter. Teacher can chart the number of questions. Students can begin to compare the number of questions they ask each time the game is played.

Repeat: As time allows.