

Pre-K

Energize
your existing
program!



Literacy



A Legacy of Learning

For nearly 50 years, **The Letter People** have been instrumental in teaching and inspiring Pre-K children. *DIG* builds upon this legacy and leverages the proven strength of these unique learning friends to **develop, inspire, and grow** little learners toward Grade K.



More than just tools for learning letters and sounds, *DIG's Letter People* puppets are **learning companions** that accompany children on their journey from Pre-K to Grade K. Over the course of the year, these 26 friends **integrate instruction** across:

- All learning domains.
- Eight thematic units.
- Weekly and daily routines.

From the first day of Pre-K to the last day of the year, *The Letter People* build a **positive community of learners** where all children are supported, engaged, and inspired on the path to kindergarten readiness.



“We’re really excited to see The Letter People integrated throughout our themes, throughout our weekly lessons, and to have that tie that will bind us together for the whole school year.”

Elaine Dodson, Program Coordinator
Muskingum Valley ESC

Why Letter People?

Foundational literacy sets the stage for every skill children will learn in their academic careers. But not all children enter Pre-K with the developmental abilities necessary to learn abstract literacy concepts, like the sounds and symbols for all 26 letters. So what can you, as an educator, do?

How about inviting 26 learning friends into your classroom to make literacy instruction more fun, more engaging, and more impactful for all of your students.

Designed to foster and build “connected engagement”—*The Letter People* make complex social and academic concepts more captivating and meaningful by presenting ideas in imaginative, playful, and safe ways.

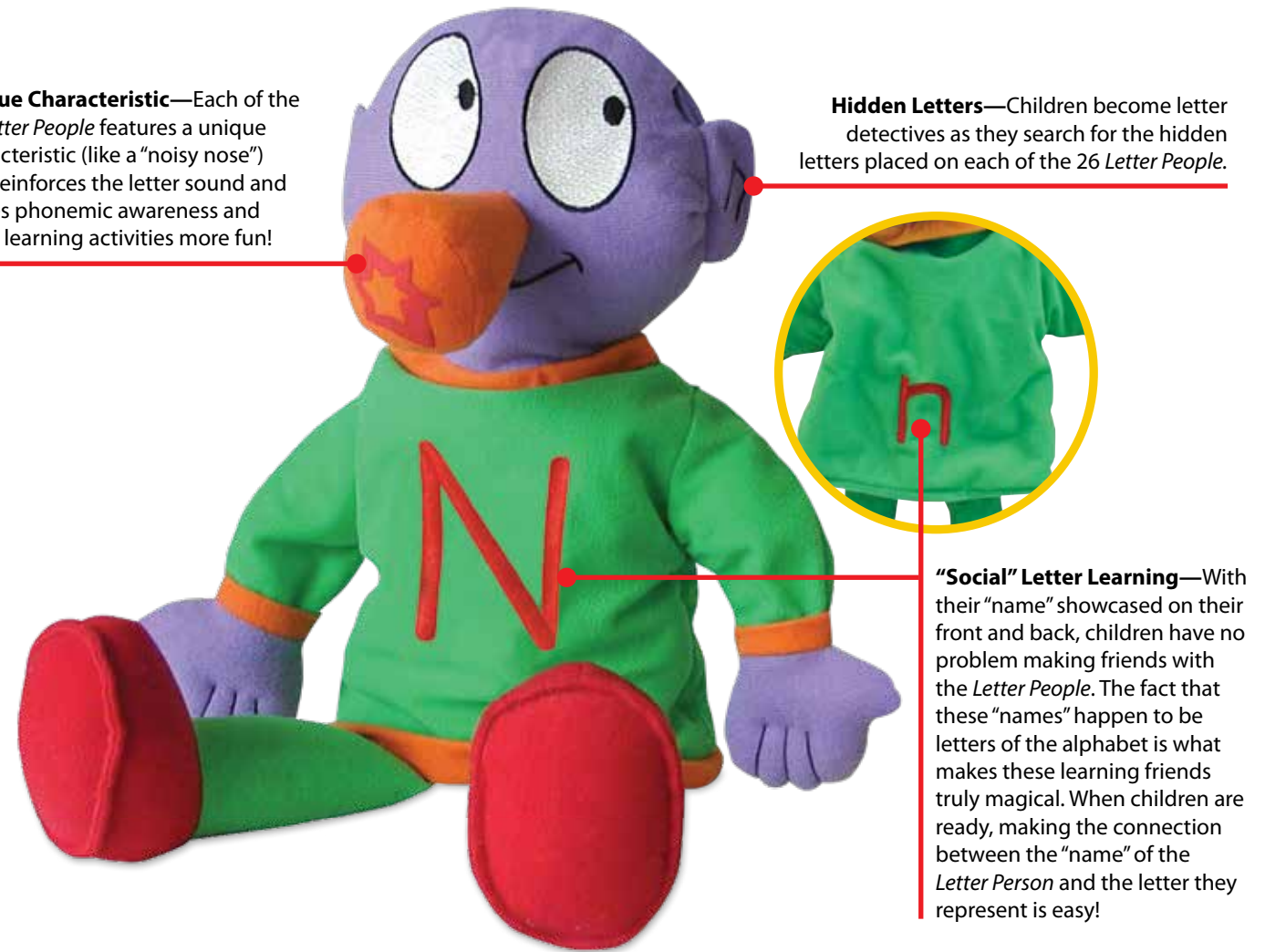


The Letter People aren’t introduced to students as “lessons,” they’re introduced as friends. As students build connections with the puppets and their unique characteristics, they learn skills like letter identification and letter-sound correspondence in ways that mimic play.

And because the *Letter People* puppets are integrated in everything we do in the *DIG* classroom, important foundational literacy skills are reinforced over and over again all year long.

Unique Characteristic—Each of the 26 *Letter People* features a unique characteristic (like a “noisy nose”) that reinforces the letter sound and makes phonemic awareness and letter learning activities more fun!

Hidden Letters—Children become letter detectives as they search for the hidden letters placed on each of the 26 *Letter People*.



“Social” Letter Learning—With their “name” showcased on their front and back, children have no problem making friends with the *Letter People*. The fact that these “names” happen to be letters of the alphabet is what makes these learning friends truly magical. When children are ready, making the connection between the “name” of the *Letter Person* and the letter they represent is easy!



“I’ve been teaching Pre-K nine years, and the amount of progress my students made from September to June [2018] is more than I’ve ever seen—especially with alphabet knowledge and phonological awareness.”

Helen Murray, Pre-K Teacher
Mount Vernon City Schools

Introducing *DIG Literacy*

DIG Literacy is a stand-alone supplemental literacy kit that features the *Letter People*! It helps Pre-K students build phonological and phonemic awareness, alphabetic knowledge, concepts of print, and listening comprehension.

By presenting literacy skills through a unique social-emotional perspective, *DIG Literacy* makes letter learning stick! And because its instruction can be done in flexible, bite-sized chunks, *DIG Literacy* bolsters literacy learning alongside any core curriculum.

Designed with:

- **Manageable** 20-minute whole-group lessons.
- **Engaging** stories and songs featuring *The Letter People*.
- **Explicit guidance** for scaffolding oral language development and comprehension in developmentally appropriate ways.
- **Age-appropriate** sequences for building phonological awareness and foundational literacy skills.
- **Real-life** social-emotional scenarios and opportunities to role play.



DIG Literacy is a powerful and affordable way to add a dose of magic and excitement to your literacy instruction no matter what core program is used. With the help of the *Letter People*, any classroom can be transformed into a rich, imaginative world where students build important skills in ways that look like *play*, but feel like *learning*.

The Letter People Flip Chart—This large-format flip chart with built-in easel introduces each *Letter Person* and builds social-emotional skills by depicting *Letter People* friends working through real-life interpersonal scenarios.

The Letter People Big Books—Each of the 26 *Letter People* has his or her own brightly illustrated big book, perfect for shared reading.

The Letter People Hand Puppets—26 plush *Letter People* puppets make children feel safe and connected, making learning concepts like letter-sound correspondence more concrete, friendly, and fun.



Other Resources—Includes the *Letter People* Alphabet Strip, a canvas-tote “Me Bag,” and the *Letter People* Songs CD, with an engaging, memorable song for each and every *Letter Person*.

The Letter People Student Readers—20 fiction and 10 nonfiction student-sized readers support emergent reading with visual support, high-frequency words, and introduction to concepts of print.

DIG Teacher Resources—8 thematically organized Teacher’s Guides devote one page to each Literacy Circle lesson and provide optional learning center ideas and small-group instruction for each week of instruction.

How Does It Work?

DIG Literacy brings research-based best literacy practices to life through engaging and age-appropriate 20-minute lessons that work as a perfect supplement to any existing curriculum.



Whole Class



Daily Literacy Circle

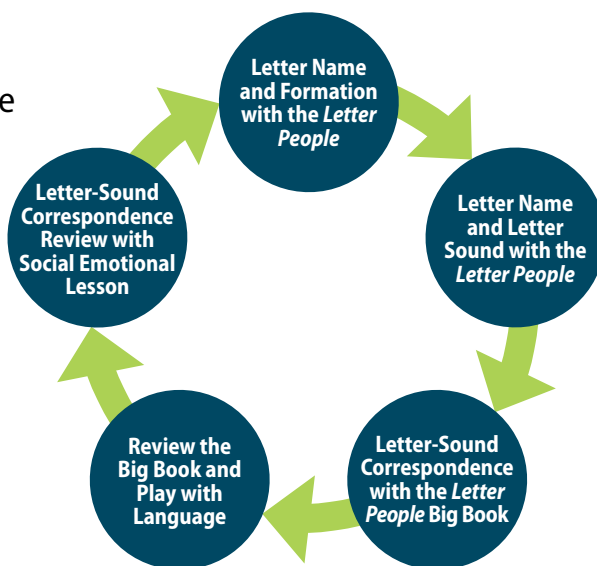
DIG Literacy's daily whole group literacy circle features hands-on activities designed to begin building foundational literacy skills:

- Phonological awareness
- Phonemic awareness
- Alphabet knowledge
- Concepts of print



Ongoing Spiraling Instruction

Each week of instruction follows the same predictable routine and builds on the skills of the previous week through read-alouds, songs, opportunities to play with language, and engaging and relatable lessons featuring the *Letter People*.



During **center time** each day, teachers can meet with **as many or few groups as needed**. Each small group time can last from 5 minutes to 20 minutes, **based on student's needs**.

Small Groups and Learning Centers



Small Groups

Optional small group lessons allow the teacher to monitor and reinforce learning for students who need more support or greater challenge. These explicit lessons support teachers in delivering targeted instruction, and feature fun and engaging activities like drawing, rhyming, playing with letters and sounds, creating class books, and practicing concepts of print with carefully crafted student readers.



What's Included?

***DIG Literacy's* components support children with a variety of engaging and developmentally appropriate tools for building foundational literacy skills.**

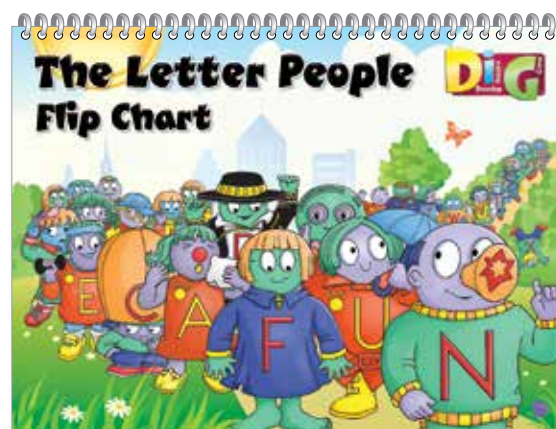
8 Teacher's Guides

DIG Literacy comes with a full set of **8 Teacher's Guides** from the comprehensive Pre-K curriculum, *DIG: Develop. Inspire. Grow.* These thematically organized Teacher's Guides devote one page to each Literacy Circle lesson and provide optional learning center ideas and small-group instruction for each week of instruction.



Letter People Flip Chart

This **large-format flip chart** with built-in easel introduces each *Letter Person* and builds social-emotional skills by depicting *Letter People* friends working through real-life interpersonal scenarios.



Big Books and Student Readers

This collection of **26 colorful big books** and **30 student-sized readers** helps teachers model positive reading behaviors, build active listening and comprehension skills, and develop discrete phonemic awareness skills and critical concepts of print.



Letter People Puppets

These 26 cute and cuddly **hand-puppets** unlock an imaginative world filled with letters and sounds. The *Letter People* have unique characteristics and individual stories that make learning letters and sounds more concrete.



Letter People Song CD

The Letter People Songs CD
presents fun and silly
songs for each *Letter
Person*.



Me Bag

The **Me Bag** is used during whole-group lessons to support the introduction of each new *Letter Person* and to develop oral language skills.



Meeting and Greeting Cards

The 26 **Letter People** cards provide families with at-home practice in letter identification, rhyming, and letter sounds.



Alphabet Strip

This large, full-color classroom **alphabet strip** illustrates both upper and lowercase letters.





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Daily Literacy for Pre-K



“My students loved the Letter People. They built connections with the puppets, and they didn’t even realize they were learning while using them.”

Lisa Amoreno, Pre-K Teacher
Mount Vernon City Schools

An all-new Pre-K literacy program designed to supplement any existing curriculum with developmentally appropriate and proven strategies for building foundational literacy skills.

Learn more today!
DIGLiteracy.com