

A narrative story to teach the skill of alphabetizing letters  
The Letter Land Parade  
By Renee House Benefield

Once upon a time there was a place called Letter Land. All of the letters lived in Letter Land. They all lived on the same street called Letter Land Lane. One day the letters decided to have a parade. They were all excited and started to line up to start the parade.

As they started to line up, some of the letters started to push and shove. They started to argue over who the leader of the parade would be and what order they should line up in. One of the letters suggested that they go ask the Wise Old "Y". He had helped with problems they had had before. They walked down Letter Land Lane until they came to his home. They shared with him the problem which was they could not decide who should be the leader of the parade or what order they should stand in.

Wise Old "Y" thought for a minute. He told the letters to follow him back down the street. They did as he asked for he was wise about many things. He showed them how the letters in Letter Land lived in a certain order on the Lane. He explained that the "A" family always lived by the "B" family and so on down the line. He explained that they had had the same neighbors for as long as he could remember and they all got along. So, Wise Old "Y" said he thought that the letters should stand in order by where they lived on the street. They started at the "A" house as they knew they should, and each letter fell into place according to the order of where they lived on Letter Land Lane. Wise Old "Y" was so proud of the letters that day for learning what we now call ABC order.

The letters had the best parade that day. They used this new idea for many other games. They used ABC order when they could not decide who should come first when they started to play. From that day on, the letters had a better way to solve the problem of who should be first in the Land of Letters.

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