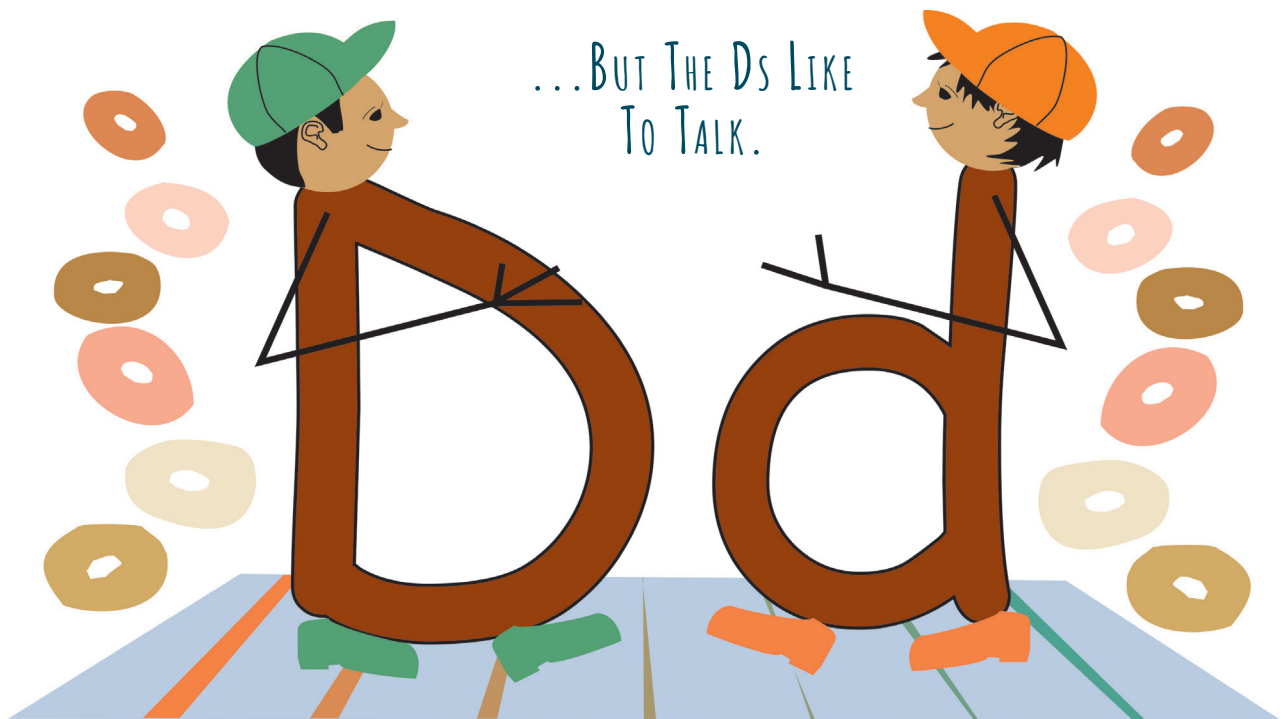
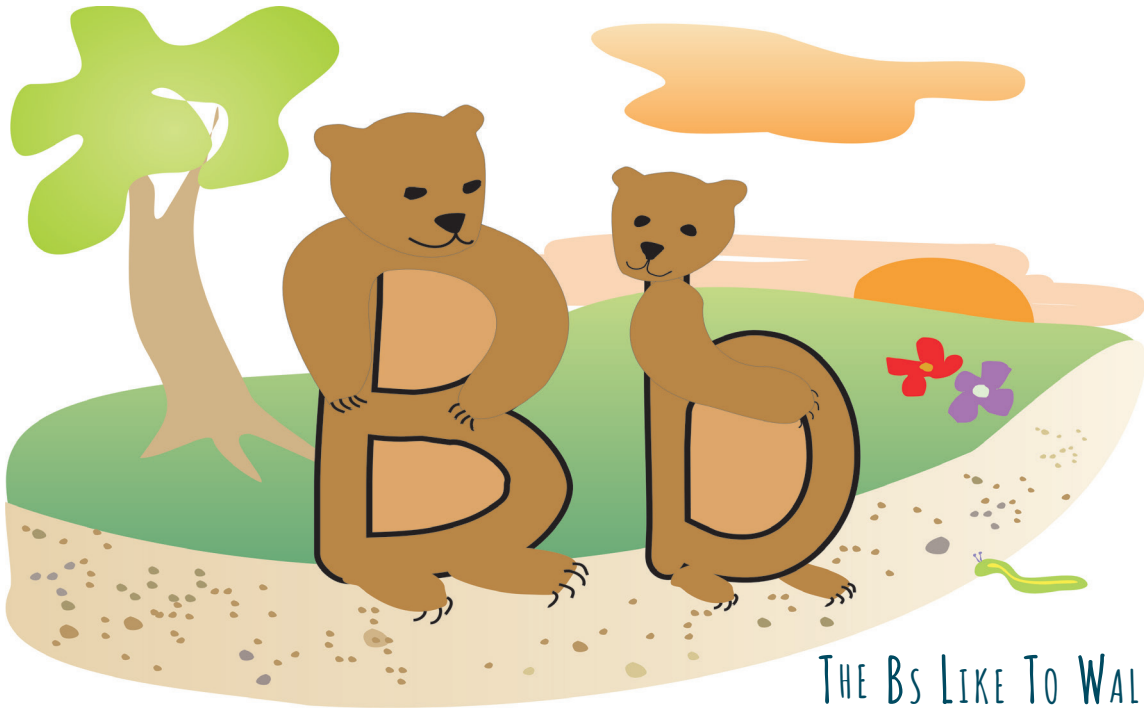


b d

How to Distinguish Between B & D



Many children struggle to remember which direction certain letters and numbers face. Telling the difference between lowercase "b" and "d" is a really common difficulty. For those children who are active and do well with tactile activities, share with them that they can make fists out of both hands, then stick both thumbs skyward. Once their knuckles are together, they have successfully "made the bed." The thumb on the left is the headboard and the one on the right is the footboard. The rest of the fingers with knuckles touching are the mattress and boxsprings.

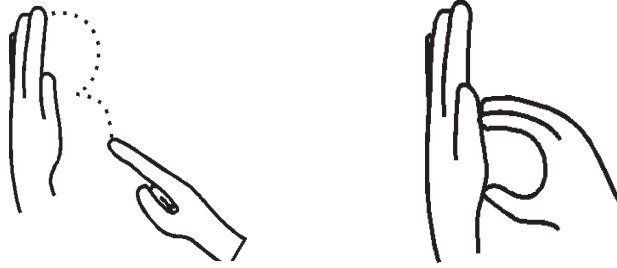
So if they are stuck, they can quickly make a bed with their hands and because BED starts with a B and ends with a D, their left hand shows them which direction "b" faces, and their right hand shows them the direction "d" faces.



b d

How to Distinguish Between B & D

HAND MOTIONS:



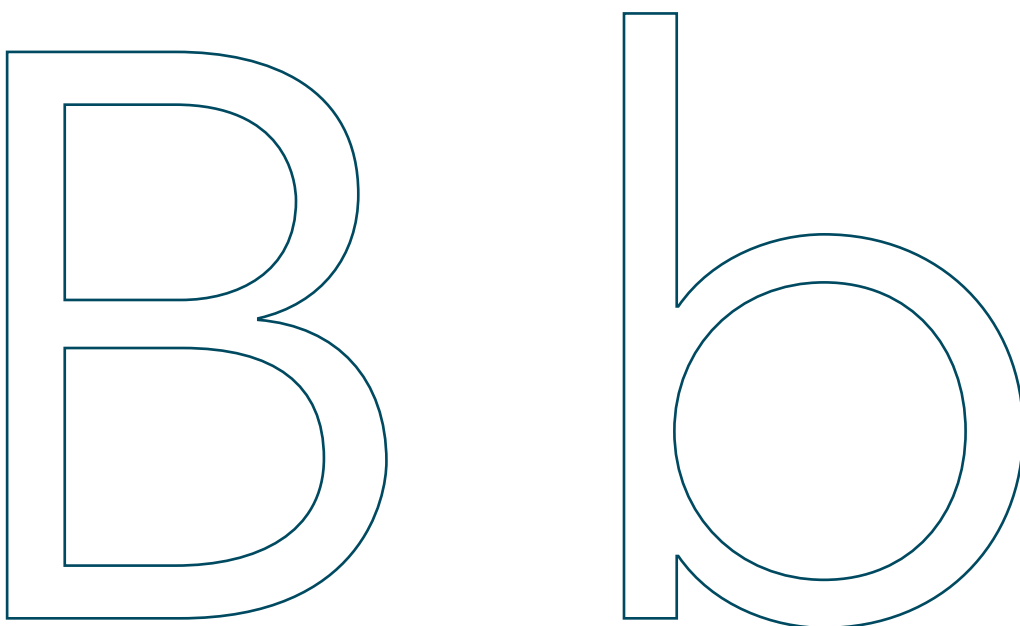
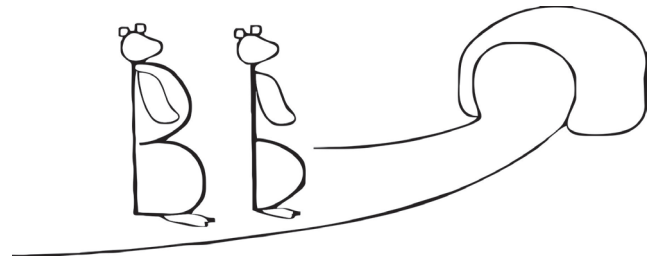
WRITING:

Uppercase: "Make a thin man. Put your pencil back on top of his head and make a curve to touch his belly button. Next, bounce back out to make a curve that touches his toes."

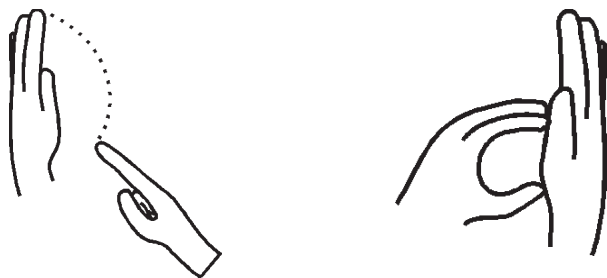
Lowercase: "Make a thin man. Put your pencil on his belly button and make a curve that touches his toes."

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITY:

Let the children make their B's and b's into bears and draw a cave nearby that they live in. Point out that their bellies both point away to the right. It is as though they are taking a walk both facing the same way. You may choose to have the children practice walking like B's do... all in a line with their bellies all going the same way. (D's do not do this, as they will soon find out!)



HAND MOTIONS:



WRITING:

Uppercase: "Make a thin man. Put your pencil back on the top of his head and make a big curve that touches his toes. He's not a thin man anymore!"

Lowercase: "Make a thin man and put the pencil on his belly button. Make a small cave that touches his toes." (Say that the D's like to talk, so their bellies are facing each other.)

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITY:

The children can practice facing each other talking like the D's do or walking facing the same direction like the B's do. Say, "The Bb's like to walk, and the Dd's like to talk."

Let them draw shoes and hats on their D's make Dad and Don Dee.

