

Alphabet Dance

Make an alphabet poster

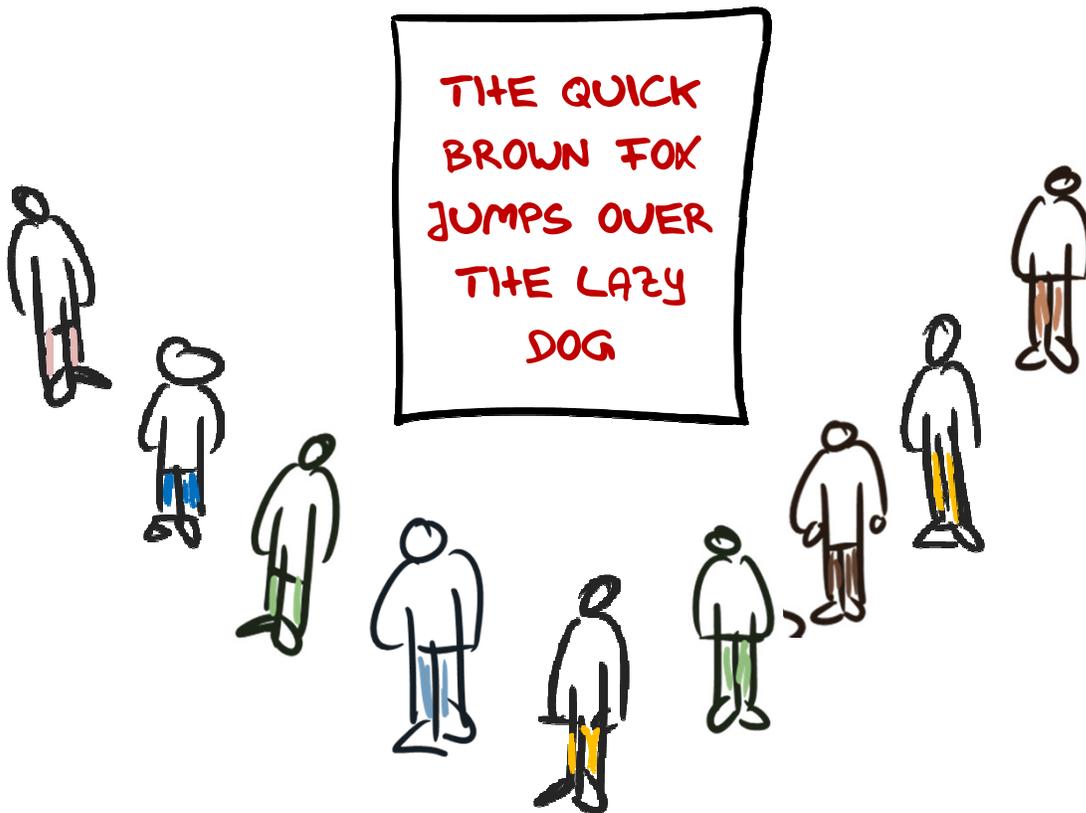
Get a big post-it. An easel pad. A piece of newsprint. Maybe craft paper. Even old packing stuff. A felt tip pen with a nice thick line.

Using easy-to-read **CAPITAL LETTERS**, write out the pangram (a phrase that contains all of the letters of the alphabet) **THE QUICK BROWN FOX JUMPS OVER THE LAZY DOG**. It should be readable from quite a ways away.

Stick it on the wall.

Play

1. **Gather** students in a **V** or **line**. Starting at one end, assign each a letter of the alphabet in sequence. Some may end up having two letters, some one, some three.
2. **Run through the alphabet** start to finish several times.
3. **Now tackle the pangram**. Everyone should have a clear view of the alphabet poster. Clearly and briskly students call out their letter as it occurs in the pangram.
4. **Do this a few times**. When someone slips up . . . **Start back at the beginning!**



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Add movement

When students can make it all the way through the pangram, shake and jump around for a bit of release. Demonstrate and then have them follow along with this sequence:

STEP IN PLACE – STEP IN PLACE – CLAP

STEP IN PLACE – STEP IN PLACE – CLAP

Students may start to stomp. Discourage that, as they won't be able to hear each other over the noise.

Play more

1. **In their V or line**, start the step-step-clap sequence. When they're moving more or less together, have them run through the alphabet A through Z, calling out their letters on the **CLAPS**.
2. **When** they're moving more or less together, have them run the alphabet A to Z, calling out their letters on the **CLAP**.
3. **Now back to the pangram.** They'll probably still need the poster at this point. If someone slips up . . . **Start back at the beginning!**

Variations

4. **Stay in the V or line but . . . face away from the poster.** Yipes. They may need to practice without the step-step-clap sequence for a bit.
5. **Break up the V or line and make a group.** Mix up the people-letters and spread the students throughout the room.

Prompts

- ✓ Listen.
- ✓ Speak up.
- ✓ Listen!
- ✓ Speak up!

