



**Ireland**

## RSI Phonetic Alphabet Activities

The phonetic alphabet is used to clearly communicate by spelling words using special names for each letter. A single letter may be misunderstood over a noisy radio or phone connection. M and N sound very similar as do B and V. The phonetical alphabet words are very different from each other, and this allows us to communicate accurately.

### Phonetic Alphabet Games

#### 1. Phonetic Name Game

To introduce the phonetic alphabet to youth members give them the alphabet sheet and have them write out their names using the phonetic alphabet and practice saying it out loud as they might on a radio or phone. E.g. "Hello, my name is Lucy, Lima Uniform Charlie Yankee, over!"

#### 2. Phonetic Relay

Have one scout go to the end of the den/field and shout a word back to the others using the phonetic alphabet. Once the word is copied another scout takes a turn.

A variation of this is to split the scouts into two teams some distance apart each with a collection of objects which the other team has a list of. The teams take turns spelling out the name of an object and a scout must run to the other team with the object they are looking for. E.g. if one team shouts "Mike Alpha Papa" and the other when they hear this must bring a map to the team requesting it.

#### 3. Phonetic Circle (from Scouts Canada)

All the participants sit in a circle. Each one is assigned a letter of the alphabet.

After reviewing the phonetic alphabet (see below) with all participants, the game begins. First, whoever has the letter A starts by saying 'alpha to' then the next letter of the alphabet, in this case 'bravo'.

The person with letter B then must say 'bravo to charlie' and so forth.

Once every person has said their letter, then the fun starts... each person picks a random letter to go to. The person named must answer correctly, and pick another random letter.

Anybody who makes a mistake is "out" and in the end, the last person left is the winner. If you don't want to make people "out" simply restart the game.

**To make it easier:** hand out the bottom part of this sheet as a phonetic alphabet guide

**To make it more challenging:** (if you have less participants) assign each more than one letter!

# Phonetic Alphabet

**A** – Alpha

**B** – Bravo

**C** – Charlie

**D** – Delta

**E** – Echo

**F** – Foxtrot

**G** – Golf

**H** – Hotel

**I** – India

**J** – Juliette

**K** – Kilo

**L** – Lima

**M** – Mike

**N** – November

**O** – Oscar

**P** – Papa

**Q** – Quebec

**R** – Romeo

**S** – Sierra

**T** – Tango

**U** – Uniform

**V** – Victor

**W** – Whiskey

**X** – X-Ray

**Y** – Yankee

**Z** – Zulu

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