Brown Bag It

Activity: Children sort pictures by initial sounds into bags labeled with different letters of the alphabet.

**Objective**
The children will match initial phonemes (sounds) to graphemes (written letters).

**Targeted Standards**
IV. Language and Literacy
IV.F.3.c. Names most letters (e.g., when shown an uppercase or lowercase letter, can accurately say its name.
http://www.floel.org/standardsresource/standards.html#d=IV&a=four_year_olds

**Procedures**

**Before You Begin the Lesson**
1. Choose one letter to focus on for your lesson. Post it in the room where children can easily see it.
2. Introduce the letter sound for the target letter.
3. Discuss words that start with the target letter sound. Share pictures or objects that begin with the letter sound.

**Small Group:**
1. Have pictures available for the children to look through that clearly show a variety of different objects beginning with the target letter sound.
2. Allow the children to cut out pictures of their choice that begin with the target letter sound.
3. Ask them to name the object in each picture and guide them in determining what letter has the beginning sound.
4. Allow children to place their pictures in the appropriate bag while saying aloud the name of their object.

**Materials Needed**
- Small brown paper bags
- Pictures of various objects that are appropriate for young children
- Scissors

**Checking for Understanding**
Children will demonstrate their understanding of the lesson by:
identifying and naming the object pictured and placing the picture in the appropriate bag.

**Scaffolding**
- Assist children who are experiencing difficulty cutting, as needed during the activity;
- Use verbal, visual and physical cues to help children know that to do.
- Provide precut pictures.

**Extensions**
- Provide a mixture of letter bags and sound cards for children to sort.
- Children can use their pictures to make an alphabet book.