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The students use magnet boards and cards from the Handwriting without Tears curriculum to trace the letters in their names. The letter cards emphasize the importance of starting to write uppercase letters at the top of the page. The cards also have pictures that correspond with the sound the letter makes (a bear on the "B" card) to help children make the connection between the letter and the sound. This connection is called phonemic awareness and it is a key to sounding out words in order to read.