

**BUZZ
WORD**
PGH.ORG

Contrast

Activity Book



Bringing the BUZZ to You!

The Buzzword partners designed this kit to inspire your family to keep learning together. We chose activities that build on your child's natural curiosity, encouraging a growing vocabulary and a deeper engagement with books.

So, who's ready to unbox the BUZZ!? First, read through **Hello, World!**, written by **Amelia Hepworth**, with your child. Then, go through the different activities, experiments, and ideas together, taking time to explain the meaning of the words and connecting them to your child's real-life experiences.

CONTRAST Book Recommendations from Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh!

High CONTRAST board books provide images that have a high degree of difference between the lightest and darkest objects, such as a black silhouette of a cat on a white page. This makes it easier for a baby to focus on a shape or pattern, so that they can become familiar with the image. By the time a child is one year of age, their vision is typically fully developed.

Take a look at these titles that are perfect for introducing children to a lifelong love of reading.

<https://bit.ly/3ObI7vX>

Baby Sees Colors!: A Totally Mesmerizing High-Contrast Book for Babies by Akio Kashiwara

Black White by Tana Hoban

The Night is Deep and Wide by Gillian Sze

One Red Button by Marthe Jocelyn

Personalized Recommendations

Looking for a good book, album, movie, or TV show? CLP is happy to recommend them to you! Use this Personalized Recommendations form to send a CLP librarian some information about what you like and they'll curate a list just for you.

carnegielibrary.org/match

CONTRAST Book Recommendations from Buzzword!

The Buzzword Collaborative develops a supporting list of books that captures the feeling and meaning of that box's Buzzword. With so many fun, educational books out there, it's hard to include them all in one box.

Here are a few books on CONTRAST that you can find online or at your local library:

Night Owl by Toni Yuly

Apple by Nikki McClure

Up Cat, Down Cat by Steve Light

One Sky by Aaron Becker

Flashlight by Lizi Boyd



CONTRAST with Movement

Materials: fabrics, dance video, music

Step 1: Find the two types of fabric and feel them. Are they different? How do the fabrics CONTRAST against one another?

Step 2: Put on music and dance with each of them.

Step 3: Talk about how each one moves and how they move differently; how they CONTRAST.

Find the **CONTRAST dance video here**, or use the QR code below:
Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre "Hello, World!" dance video.



PITTSBURGH BALLET THEATRE

Hand Shadows

You probably have seen your shadow in the sun while walking down the street. But, have you ever made a shadow with a flashlight and your hands?

Materials: hands, wall, flashlight

Step 1: Find a dark space with a wall.

Step 2: Using the flashlight, move your hands near and far from the light to see your shadow and create special effects.

Step 3: Experiment with making different shapes with your hands to see what shadows you can make.

Extension Activity: What animals can you make with your hands? A butterfly? A bird? A rabbit?



 PittsburghParks.org

CONTRAST Sensory Board

This activity explores the senses of both sight and touch. Using high CONTRAST materials in black and white engages your eyes, while the textured materials highlight your sense of touch.

Making a sensory board is a wonderful way to play with the senses for all ages!

Materials: foam core base, black and white textured items with Velcro

- Step 1:** Pull out the foam core base with the attached Velcro pieces.
- Step 2:** Explore the various textured items in both black and white.
- Step 3:** Secure your textured items to the base with the Velcro.
- Step 4:** Use your imagination to play with the placement of the items in different ways to create a mesmerizing display.



CONTRASTing Shapes!

CONTRAST is when artists put two opposite things beside one another. You usually clean with a sponge, but today you are going to make art with sponges! You will be using sponges to create CONTRASTing shapes using a light-colored paint on a dark colored paper.

Materials: black paper, white paint, a compressed sponge, paper plate (not included), scissors (not included; caregiver supervision required)

- Step 1:** Read Hello, World! with your caregiver and look at all the shapes that are in CONTRAST with the background.
- Step 2:** Work with your caregiver to cut the dry sponge into different shapes, like a square, circle, or heart.
- Step 3:** Wet the sponge and watch it grow and expand.
- Step 4:** Spread out paint on a paper plate and press the sponge into the paint.
- Step 5:** Pick up the sponge and press it onto the black paper to create CONTRAST.

Extension Activity: Use the different sponges to create a picture of a building on your paper. What kind of building is it? A house? A library? What about a museum?



High CONTRAST Paper Art Project

Art that consists of extremely bright and dark areas is considered high CONTRAST. You will see examples of high CONTRAST art when you read the book, Hello, World!. For this activity, we have provided materials for your family to create your own high CONTRAST art project from paper.

Materials: black paper, neon colored paper pieces, glue stick. **Optional:** scissors (caregiver assistance required), items to trace (for shapes)

Step 1: Collect your materials: a standard piece of black paper, neon colored paper pieces, and glue stick, all which are provided.

Step 2: You'll be using your black paper as the canvas for your artwork. Lay the black paper on the table or floor in front of you, and place neon papers around it so that you can envision the art that you want to create.

Step 3: Use the pieces of neon colored paper to make different shapes and designs. Babies and young children can tear pieces of paper (caregiver assistance may be needed) and older children may choose to use scissors to cut paper, even tracing outlines of circles, squares, etc. to create the shapes that they enjoy.

Step 4: Arrange your neon paper on the black paper to create pictures, patterns, or designs. Secure them in place with the glue stick.

Step 5: Share your new high contrast art project with family and friends!



Phases of the Moon

Look up at the sky at night! What do you see? The Moon and beautiful glowing stars. Do you notice the Moon changes its size each night? The Moon orbits around the Earth and how much of the Moon we see depends on the Moon's position in relation to the Earth and Sun. The Moon reflects the light from the Sun, just like a flashlight reflects off of objects.

Materials: Phases of the Moon card, two (2) black sheets of construction paper, white tempera paint stick

Step 1: Find the Phases of the Moon card. There are eight Phases of the Moon. Each phase is named after how much of the Moon we can see and if it is increasing or decreasing in size.

Step 2: Point to each Phase of the Moon and count to eight.

Step 3: Take the white tempera paint stick and try to draw all eight Phases of the Moon on one of the pieces of black paper, just like the Phases of the Moon card.

Step 4: Make some observations about your Moon. Notice the CONTRAST between the black paper and the white paint. Notice how the Moon grows and grows until it becomes a Full Moon and then gets smaller and smaller until it becomes a New Moon.

Extension Activity: Use the second piece of black paper to create your own high CONTRAST image. Maybe even create your own star constellation!



Research Says

From birth to age five years, young children's brains are rapidly developing. During this time, little ones are more open to learning and becoming inspired. Talking with a child helps increase vocabulary development and communication skills needed throughout life.

A child's early vocabulary skills grow in real-life settings through positive interactions and conversations about the world.



Who Are We?

Buzzword Pittsburgh excites children and families as they experience the words that are all around them. Through talk and play that incorporates math, science, and art, young children will expand their vocabularies and conversation skills. The program engages families and community organizations throughout Allegheny County.

The Buzzword Pittsburgh collaborative consists of partner organizations with expertise in the arts and sciences and local family centers. These partners provide interactive learning opportunities that encourage imagination, investigation, creation, and reflection. Buzzword Pittsburgh is supported by PNC Grow Up Great® and the Allegheny County Department of Human Services.



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