

## Activities for Developing a Literacy-Rich Environment

### Using Photos of Words In Our World

Print appears all around us—on signs, mailboxes, bus stops, road signs, billboards, and even on vehicles! Through this activity, young children:

- become more aware of print in their world
- begin to see likenesses and differences in letters and words
- begin to understand that print is used to convey meaning.

**Directions:** Take photos of print in your neighborhood, town or city—road signs, stores, billboards, mailboxes, etc. Get extra copies made so children can use them in matching games and activities. You can also put photos in a pocket chart, and ask children to find a matching photo to place beside the one in the chart.

These photos can also be used in bookmaking activities, such as the two described below.

- Make *peek-a-boo book* by hiding one photo under a flap of construction paper on each page. Beside the flap, write the word(s) without the logo or picture.
- Make *bag books* by inserting one photo in each bag. On the bag write the words to songs such as “Daddy’s taking us to ... tomorrow.”