Milestones in Learning the Alphabet

Milestones for preschool children
Learn to sing the alphabet song.
Understand that the alphabet song is about the shapes we call letters.
Understand that each letter has a name.
Recognize their name in print.
Learn the names of the letters used in their name.
Begin to write some of the letters in their name.

Milestones for kindergartners
Learn all the letters of the alphabet.
Match uppercase and lowercase forms.
Identify every letter in different cases and styles.
Learn to write their first and last name.
Begin to learn the common sounds that each letter represents, beginning with the consonants.

Milestones for first graders
Know all the letter names and sounds; identify them quickly and fluently.
Master all letter-sound matches.
Learn how to form all letters correctly.
Learn how to arrange words in alphabetical order.

Milestones for second graders
Begin to master cursive letter formation so that handwriting is automatic and fast.
Begin to spell conventionally.
Decode unfamiliar words quickly.