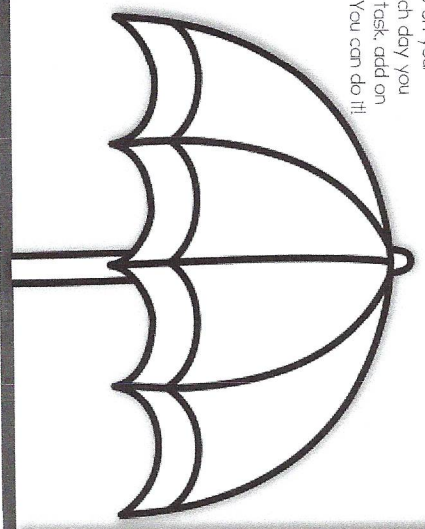
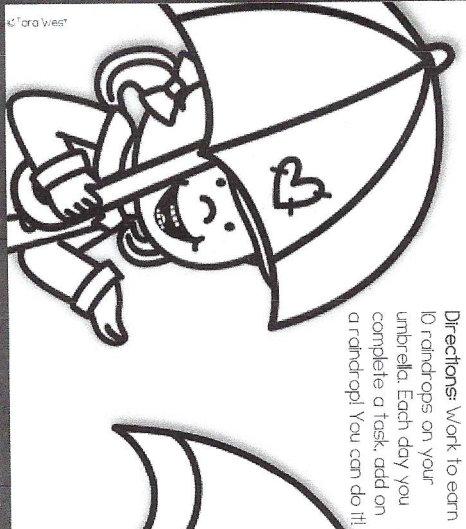


April Learning Mat: Week 3

<p>Move-Your-Fingers Monday</p> <p>Today you will be moving those fingers as you write numbers from H0.</p> <p>Guardian: Say the numbers in random order to have your child write the numbers. Continue until all numbers from H0 have been written.</p>	<p>Top-N-Count Tuesday</p> <p>Today you will be working on your one-to-one counting. That means you will need to top each item as you count it out.</p> <p>Guardian: Give your child a set of items. Ask them to count out different numbers. Start with 2 or 3 and build up to 10 or 15.</p>	<p>Whip-Up-A-Web Wednesday</p> <p>Today you will be making a "What comes next?" web. Write the number 6 in the middle.</p> <p>Then, draw five lines coming from the middle and have your child write or tell what 5 numbers come next going around the web (7, 8, 9, 10, 11).</p>	<p>Think-It-Out Thursday</p> <p>Today you will work on estimating. That means you will make a guess about how many you think there are.</p> <p>Guardian: Place H0 small objects or toys into a clear container. Ask your child to tell you how many they think there are. Then count to check.</p>	<p>Fast-N-Fluent Friday</p> <p>Today you will work fast and fluently. Have your child count to 20 or higher.</p>	<p>Math</p>
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<p>Move-Your-Fingers Monday</p> <p>Today you will work on drawing a story. Have your child think about their story. Then, have them draw a picture and label it. Ask them who the character is in their story. Have them write or tell you a simple sentence about their story. For example, She got a new toy.</p>	<p>Top-N-Clap Tuesday</p> <p>Today you will be working on sounding out words. Place 3-5 toys or objects on the table. Say the name of each object. See if they can hear what the beginning sound is. Can they write the letters that represent those sounds?</p>	<p>Whip-Up-A-Web Wednesday</p> <p>Today you will be creating a rhyming web for "og" words. Write "dog" in the middle circle. Draw lines out from the middle. Have your child write or tell a word that rhymes for each line. For example, frog, log, hog, fog, jog.</p>	<p>Think-It-Out Thursday</p> <p>Today you will work on responding to text.</p> <p>Guardian: Read a book to your child. Have them ask and answer one or more questions about the book. Who are the characters? Where did the story happen (the setting)? What was the problem?</p>	<p>Fast-N-Fluent Friday</p> <p>Today you will work fast and fluently. Have your child say the alphabet (or sing) aloud. Have your child point to each letter on the alphabet chart as they say it. Then point to random letters and have your child state each letter or beginning sound if they can!</p>	<p>ELA</p>
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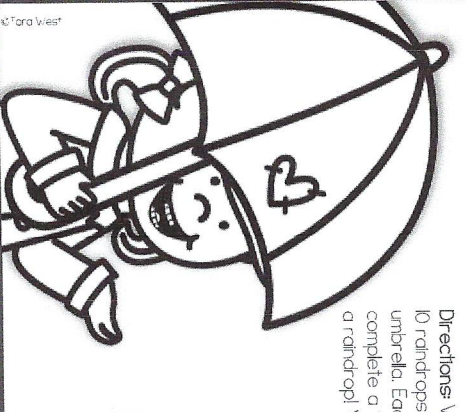


Three-In-A-Row Board

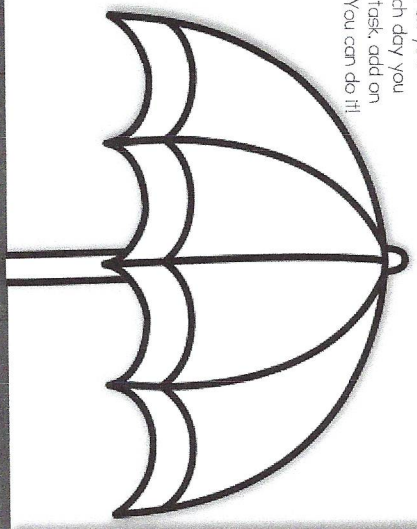
Count aloud to 20 or higher.	Jump and count to 15.	Help make dinner.
Play your favorite game.	Do these rhyme: book, bag?	What is your favorite season?
Name 3 things that are pink.	Play a card game.	Listen as your parent reads a book to you.

April Learning Mat: Week 4

<p>Move-Your-Fingers Monday</p> <p>Today you will be moving those fingers as you write numbers from H0.</p> <p>Guardian: Say the numbers in random order to have your child write the numbers. Continue until all numbers from H0 have been written.</p>	<p>Tap-N-Count Tuesday</p> <p>Today you will be working on your one-to-one counting. That means you will need to tap each item as you count it out.</p> <p>Guardian: Give your child a set of items. Ask them to count out different numbers. Start with 2 or 3 and build up to 10 or 15.</p>	<p>Whip-Up-A-Web Wednesday</p> <p>Today you will be making a "what comes next?" web. Write the number 3 in the middle.</p> <p>Then, draw five lines coming from the middle and have your child write or tell what 5 numbers come next going around the web (3, 4, 5, 6, 7).</p>	<p>Think-It-Out Thursday</p> <p>Today you will work on estimating. That means you will make a guess about how many you think there are.</p> <p>Guardian: Place H0 small objects or toys into a clear container. Ask your child to tell you how many they think there are. Then count to check.</p>	<p>Fast-N-Fluent Friday</p> <p>Today you will work fast and fluently. Have your child count to 20 or higher.</p> <p>Math</p>
<p>Move-Your-Fingers Monday</p> <p>Today you will work on drawing a story. Have your child think about their story. Then, have them draw a picture and label it. Ask them who the character is in their story. Have them write or tell you a simple sentence about their story. For example, A frog is in the pond.</p>	<p>Tap-N-Clap Tuesday</p> <p>Today you will be working on sounding out words. Place 3-5 toys or objects on the table. Say the name of each object. See if they can hear what the beginning sound is. Can they write the letters that represent those sounds?</p>	<p>Whip-Up-A-Web Wednesday</p> <p>Today you will be creating a rhyming web for "en" words. Write "en" in the middle circle. Draw lines out from the middle. Have your child write or tell a word that rhymes for each line. For example Ben, pen, men, den, hen.</p>	<p>Think-It-Out Thursday</p> <p>Today you will work on responding to text.</p> <p>Guardian: Read a book to your child. Have them ask and answer one or more questions about the book. Who are the characters? Where did the story happen (the setting)? What was the problem?</p>	<p>Fast-N-Fluent Friday</p> <p>Today you will work fast and fluently. Have your child say the alphabet (or sing) aloud. Have your child point to each letter on the alphabet chart as they say it. Then point to random letters and have your child state each letter or beginning sound if they can!</p> <p>ELA</p>



Directions: Work to earn 10 raindrops on your umbrella. Each day you complete a task, add on a raindrop! You can do it!

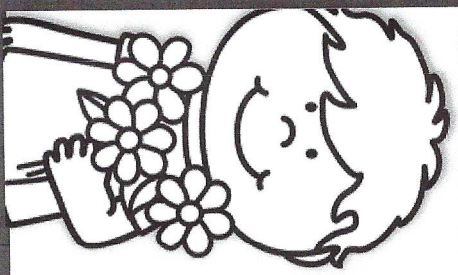


Three-In-A-Row Board		
Count aloud to 20 or higher.	Make up a new song.	Help set the table.
Make a pattern.	Practice writing your name.	What is your favorite animal?
Play a board game.	Name 3 things that are blue.	Listen as your parent reads a book to you.

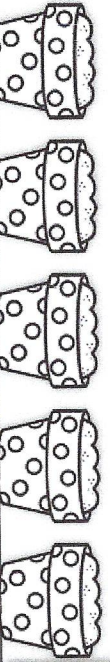
May Learning Mat: Week 1

<p>Move-Your-Fingers Monday</p> <p>Today you will be moving those fingers as you write numbers from 1-10.</p> <p>Guardian: Say the numbers in random order to have your child write the numbers. Continue until all numbers from 1-10 have been written.</p>	<p>Top-N-Count Tuesday</p> <p>Today you will be working on your one-to-one counting. That means you will need to top each item as you count it out.</p> <p>Guardian: Ask your child to draw a group of 2 dots and a group of 3 dots. Have them tell you how many dots in all?</p>	<p>Whip-Up-A-Web Wednesday</p> <p>Today you will be making a "Smaller than..." web. Place a toy in the middle of a piece of paper. Then, draw lines coming from the middle and find or draw toys that are smaller than the toy to put on the lines.</p>	<p>Think-It-Out Thursday</p> <p>Today you will work with adding.</p> <p>Guardian: Say the following to your child and have them solve using their fingers or counters.</p> <p>3+2 4+1 0-5 2+1</p>	<p>Fast-N-Fluent Friday</p> <p>Today you will work fast and fluently. Have your child count to 20 or higher.</p>	<p>Math</p>
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<p>Move-Your-Fingers Monday</p> <p>Today you will work on drawing a story. Have your child think about their story. Then, have them draw a picture and label it. Ask them who the character is in their story. Have them write or tell you a simple sentence about their story. For example, I like pink flowers.</p>	<p>Tap-N-Clap Tuesday</p> <p>Today you will be working on sounding out words. Place 3-5 toys or objects on the table. Say the name of each object. See if they can hear what the beginning sounds. Can they write the letters that represent those sounds?</p>	<p>Whip-Up-A-Web Wednesday</p> <p>Today you will be making a "family" web. Write "family" in the middle of a piece of paper. Then, draw lines coming from the word "family" and write a name or draw a picture of a person in your family to put by each line.</p>	<p>Think-It-Out Thursday</p> <p>Today you will work on responding to text.</p> <p>Guardian: Read a book to your child. Have them ask and answer one or more questions about the book. Who are the characters? Where did the story happen (the setting)? What was the problem?</p>	<p>Fast-N-Fluent Friday</p> <p>Today you will work fast and fluently. Have your child say the alphabet (or sing) aloud. Have your child point to each letter on the alphabet chart as they say it. Then point to random letters and have your child state each letter or beginning sound if they can!</p>	<p>ELA</p>
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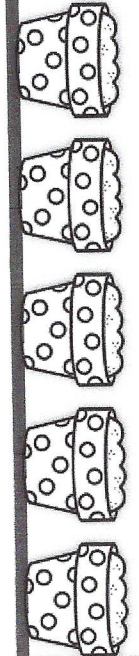
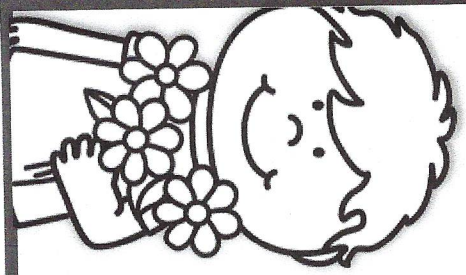
Directions: Work to earn 10 flowers in your Flowerpots. Each day you complete a task, add in a flower! You can do it!



Three-In-A-Row Board	
Count aloud to 20 or higher.	Name 3 things that are orange.
Play a board game.	Make a pattern.
Sing your favorite song.	Which is less: 3 or 5?
	Practice using scissors.
	Listen as your parent reads a book to you.
	Make a card for someone.

May Learning Mat: Week 2

<p>Move-Your-Fingers Monday</p> <p>Today you will be moving those fingers as you write numbers from H.O.</p> <p>Guardian: Say the numbers in random order to have your child write the numbers. Continue until all numbers from H.O have been written.</p>	<p>Top-N-Count Tuesday</p> <p>Today you will be working on your one-to-one counting. That means you will need to top each item as you count it out.</p> <p>Guardian: Ask your child to draw a group of 2 triangles and a group of 4 triangles. Have them tell you how many shapes in all.</p>	<p>Whip-Up-A-Web Wednesday</p> <p>Today you will be making a "Bigger than..." web. Place a small toy in the middle of a piece of paper. Then, draw lines coming from the middle and find or draw toys that are bigger than the toy to put on the lines.</p>	<p>Think-It-Out Thursday</p> <p>Today you will work with adding.</p> <p>Guardian: Say the following to your child and have them solve using their fingers or counters.</p> <p>1+3 2+2 3+2 0+3</p>	<p>Fast-N-Fluent Friday</p> <p>Today you will work fast and fluently. Have your child count to 20 or higher.</p> <p>Math</p>
<p>Move-Your-Fingers Monday</p> <p>Today you will work on drawing a story. Have your child think about their story. Then, have them draw a picture and label it. Ask them who the character is in their story. Have them write or tell you a simple sentence about their story. For example, "My mom hugs me."</p>	<p>Tap-N-Clap Tuesday</p> <p>Today you will be working on sounding out words. Place 3-5 toys or objects on the table. Say the name of each object. See if they can hear what the beginning sounds. Can they write the letters that represent those sounds?</p>	<p>Whip-Up-A-Web Wednesday</p> <p>Today you will be making a "Friends" web. Write "Friends" in the middle of a piece of paper. Then, draw lines coming from the word "Friends" and write a name or draw a picture of a friend to put by each line.</p>	<p>Think-It-Out Thursday</p> <p>Today you will work on responding to text.</p> <p>Guardian: Read a book to your child. Have them ask and answer one or more questions about the book. Who are the characters? Where did the story happen (the setting)? What was the problem?</p>	<p>Fast-N-Fluent Friday</p> <p>Today you will work fast and fluently. Have your child say the alphabet (or sing) aloud. Have your child point to each letter on the alphabet chart as they say it. Then point to random letters and have your child state each letter or beginning sound if they can!</p> <p>ELA</p>



Directions: Work to earn 10 flowers in your flowerpots. Each day you complete a task, add in a flower! You can do it!

Three-In-A-Row Board

<p>Count aloud to 20 or higher.</p>	<p>Name 3 things that are red.</p>	<p>Make a card.</p>
<p>Make letters with play dough.</p>	<p>Draw shapes with chalk.</p>	<p>Find shapes in a book.</p>
<p>Play a board game.</p>	<p>Which is less: 2 or 7?</p>	<p>Listen as your parent reads a book to you.</p>

May Learning Mat: Week 3

Move-Your-Fingers Monday

Today you will be moving those fingers as you write numbers from H0.

Guardian: Say the numbers in random order to have your child write the numbers. Continue until all numbers from H0 have been written.

Top-N-Count Tuesday

Today you will be working on your one-to-one counting. That means you will need to tap each item as you count it out.

Guardian: Ask your child to draw a group of 0 trees and a group of 5 flowers. Have them tell you how many plants in all.

Whip-Up-A-Web Wednesday

Today you will be making a spider web! Draw a web and add some spiders. How many spiders did you draw? Can you write the number to match?

Think-It-Out Thursday

Today you will work with adding.

Guardian: Say the following to your child and have them solve using their fingers or counters.

2+3
4+1
3-0
1+2

Fast-N-Fluent Friday

Today you will work fast and fluently. Have your child count to 20 or higher.

Move-Your-Fingers Monday

Today you will work on drawing a story. Have your child think about their story. Then, have them draw a picture and label it. Ask them who the character is in their story. Have them write or tell you a simple sentence about their story. For example, I like to run fast.

Top-N-Clap Tuesday

Today you will be working on sounding out words. Place 3-5 toys or objects on the table. Say the name of each object. See if they can hear what the beginning sounds. Can they write the letters that represent those sounds?

Whip-Up-A-Web Wednesday

Today you will be making a "Healthy Foods" web. Write "healthy foods" in the middle of a piece of paper. Then, draw lines coming from the word "healthy foods" and find a food, write a word, or draw a picture to put by each line.

Think-It-Out Thursday

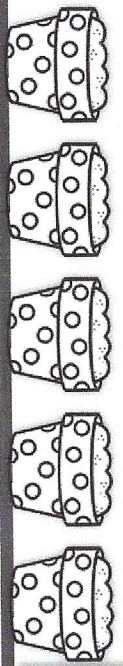
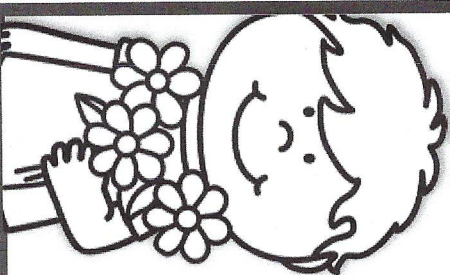
Today you will work on responding to text.

Guardian: Read a book to your child. Have them ask and answer one or more questions about the book. Who are the characters? Where did the story happen (the setting)? What was the problem?

Fast-N-Fluent Friday

Today you will work fast and fluently. Have your child say the alphabet (or sing) aloud. Have your child point to each letter on the alphabet chart as they say it. Then point to random letters and have your child state each letter or beginning sound if they can!

Directions: Work to earn 10 flowers in your flowerpots. Each day you complete a task, add in a flower! You can do it!



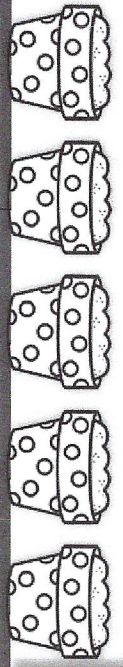
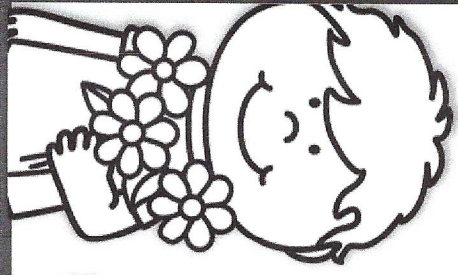
Three-In-A-Row Board

Count aloud to 20 or higher.	Name 3 things that are yellow.	Write your name with chalk.
Play a board game.	Make numbers with play dough.	Find numbers in a book.
Draw your favorite animal.	Which is less: 1 or 8?	Listen as your parent reads a book to you.

May Learning Mat: Week 4

<p>Move-Your-Fingers Monday</p> <p>Today you will be moving those fingers as you write numbers from H0.</p> <p>Guardian: Say the numbers in random order to have your child write the numbers.</p> <p>Continue until all numbers from H0 have been written.</p>	<p>Tap-N-Count Tuesday</p> <p>Today you will be working on your one-to-one counting. That means you will need to tap each item as you count it out.</p> <p>Guardian: Ask your child to draw a group of 4 circles and 1 square. Have them tell you how many shapes in all.</p>	<p>Whip-Up-A-Web Wednesday</p> <p>Today you will be making a "Shape" web. Write the word "shapes" in the middle of a piece of paper. Then, draw lines coming from the middle and draw different kinds of shapes on the lines.</p>	<p>Think-It-Out Thursday</p> <p>Today you will work with adding.</p> <p>Guardian: Say the following to your child and have them solve using their fingers or counters.</p> <p>4+1 2+0 2+2 2+3</p>	<p>Fast-N-Fluent Friday</p> <p>Today you will work fast and fluently. Have your child count to 20 or higher.</p> <p>Math</p>
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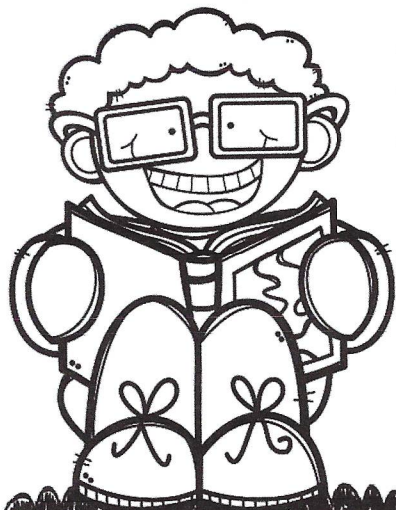
<p>Move-Your-Fingers Monday</p> <p>Today you will work on drawing a story. Have your child think about their story. Then, have them draw a picture and label it. Ask them who the character is in their story. Have them write or tell you a simple sentence about their story. For example: He is my friend.</p>	<p>Tap-N-Clap Tuesday</p> <p>Today you will be working on sounding out words. Place 3-5 toys or objects on the table. Say the name of each object. See if they can hear what the beginning sound is. Can they write the letters that represent those sounds?</p>	<p>Whip-Up-A-Web Wednesday</p> <p>Write "Things to Do Together" in the middle of a web. Then draw lines from the middle. On each line have your child draw something they like to do with family. Label each thing for your child (ex: go to the park, build with blocks, play games, etc.).</p>	<p>Think-It-Out Thursday</p> <p>Today you will work on responding to text.</p> <p>Guardian: Read a book to your child. Have them ask and answer one or more questions about the book. Who are the characters? Where did the story happen (the setting)? What was the problem?</p>	<p>Fast-N-Fluent Friday</p> <p>Today you will work fast and fluently. Have your child say the alphabet (or sing) aloud. Have your child point to each letter on the alphabet chart as they say it. Then point to random letters and have your child state each letter or beginning sound if they can!</p> <p>ELA</p>
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Directions: Work to earn 10 Flowers in your Flowerpots. Each day you complete a task, add in a Flower! You can do it!

Three-In-A-Row Board

Count aloud to 20 or higher.	Name 3 things that are green.	Make a card.
Play a board game.	Find 6 rectangles.	Make shapes with play dough.
Write your ABC's in shaving cream.	Which is less: 6 or 2?	Listen as your parent reads a book to you.



Make a warm and cozy reading nook in your home with pillows, soft chairs, and/or stuffed animals.
Fill a basket with your child's favorite books, tablet, and/or magazines!

MAKE READING AN ADVENTURE

YOU CAN NEVER READ A BOOK TOO MANY TIMES! EACH TIME YOUR CHILD READS A BOOK AGAIN, HE/SHE GAINS NEW KNOWLEDGE AND BUILDS FLUENCY!

READ IN FUN PLACES

outside, inside, in the car, in the bathtub, in bed, on the couch, under the covers, under a tree, at the library, in a tent, or in a park

READ FUN WAYS

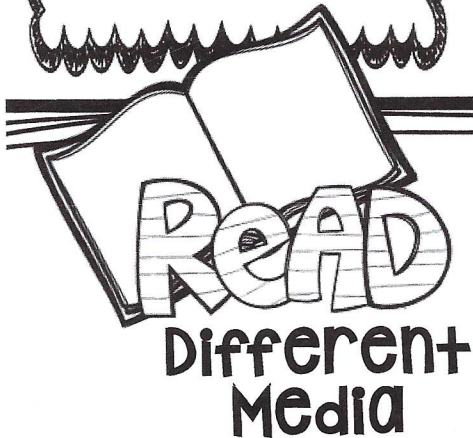
with a flashlight, in different voices, on the computer, act it out, by singing the words, in a whisper, to a stuffed animal, to a pet, or with props/puppets

READ DIFFERENT KINDS OF BOOKS

ABC, counting, fiction, non-fiction, big, small, long, short, rhyming, poetry, song, or fairy tales

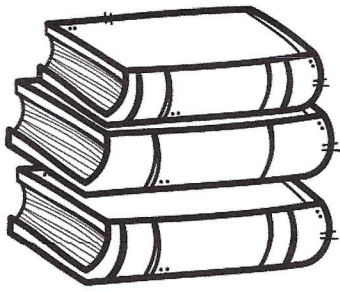
READ ABOUT DIFFERENT THINGS

family, friends, feelings, school, holidays, sports, dance, food, birthdays, forest animals, polar animals, zoo animals, ocean animals, pets, dinosaurs, insects, construction, vehicles, plants, princesses, farms, science, seasons, weather, or various habitats



Books
Newspapers
Magazines
E books
Letters
Shopping Lists

Cards
Mail
Store Ads
Signs
Recipes
Comics



Reading at Home

Reading at home will make a **HUGE** difference in your child's school success! Make reading part of your everyday routine. Choose books that match your child's interests.

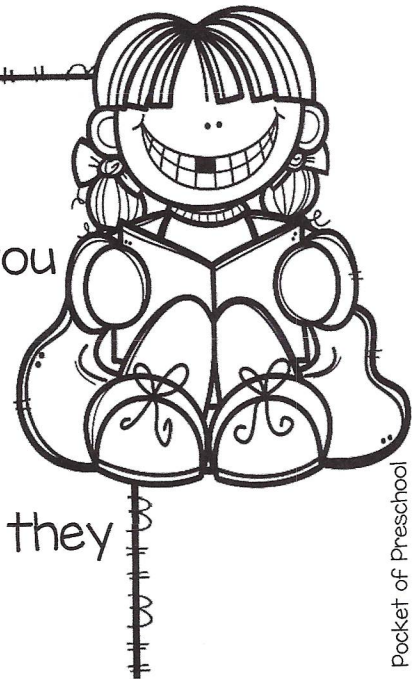
READING FOR JUST 10 - 15 MINUTES A DAY WILL BENEFIT YOUR CHILD!

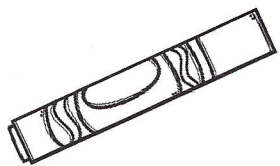
Telling, Re-telling, and Understanding

- Before reading, make predictions and ask questions. What is the story going to be about?
- Talk about new words and their meaning.
- Make connections to his/her life, other books, and/or movies/TV. What does this remind you of (another book, something that happened to them, a place, a TV show)?
- Talk, comment, and ask questions about the characters and setting as you read the book. How does the character feel? Where is the character at the beginning/middle/end of the book?
- After you read the book, have your child retell you the story in order.
- Act out the story! Make different voices for each character. Use props and have fun!
- Have your child "read" the book (your child will make up the words that may or may not match the text and use the pictures as a guide).

Building a Reader

- ★ Have your child turn the pages.
- ★ Encourage your child to fill in the rhymes as you read.
- ★ Notice patterns in the text and illustrations.
- ★ Have your child be the "reader" and read the pictures to you.
- ★ Notice and talk about letters and the sounds they make.
- ★ Help your child fall in **LOVE** with books!



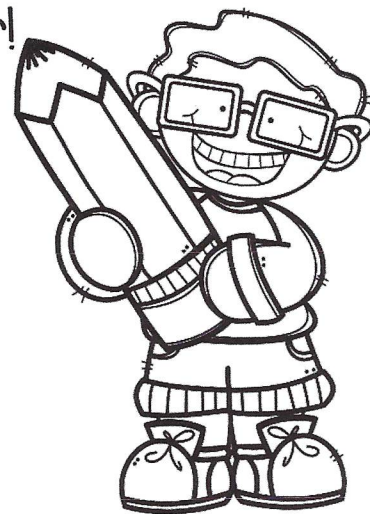


Writing at Home

Help your child LOVE drawing and writing. Build your child's confidence and encourage him/her along the road to becoming a confident writer!

Things to Remember

- Writing should be fun and stress free!
- Allow your child to draw and write at his/her level. Every child starts by scribbling. Scribbling is a way for a child to put his/her thoughts on paper in a way that makes sense to him/her.
- Let your child know you value what he/she "writes". Read it, hang it up, or take the list with you to the store.
- The pictures are just as important as the words! Encourage your child to draw about his/her writing!
- Use a variety of tools to write with to make writing fun! You can use pencils, pens, markers, and crayons.

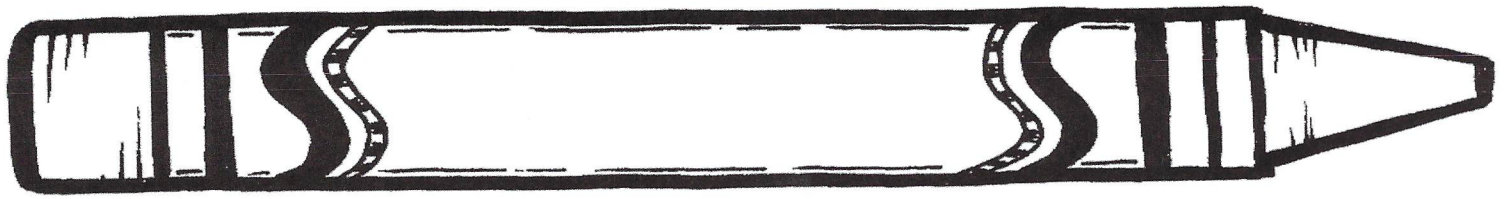


**HELP YOUR
CHILD FALL IN
LOVE WITH
WRITING AND
DRAWING!**



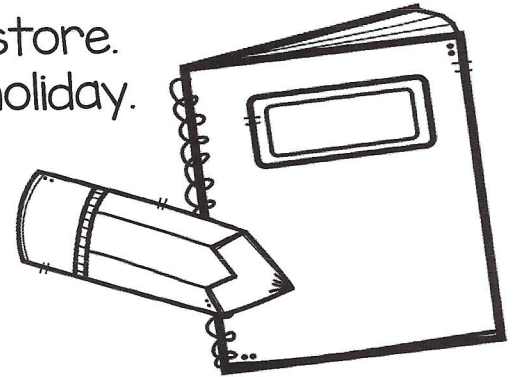
Building a Writer

- Encourage your child to write letters, draw shapes/pictures, and various types of lines.
- Help your child sound out words.
- Make word cards with pictures for your child to copy.
- Notice when words rhyme and brainstorm more rhyming words.
- Notice beginning and ending sounds in words.
- Clap how many syllables a word has.
- Let your child see YOU writing in your daily life!



CREATING PURPOSEFUL REASONS TO DRAW AND WRITE

- Make a shopping list before going to the store.
- Make a card for someone's birthday or holiday.
- Create a thank you card.
- Write a note to remember something.
- Make a "To Do" list.
- Make a "wish list".
- Write a letter to someone special.
- Create a book about a memory, special event, or holiday.
- Put a message board in the kitchen and write silly messages to each other.
- Make a sign for each person's door in your house.
- Make fun post-it notes and hide them all over your home.
- Make lunchbox notes for siblings.
- Make or buy a journal for your child to write and draw all his/her thoughts, ideas, feelings, and important/daily events in.
- Make a menu for dinner or a special occasion.
- Make a poster.



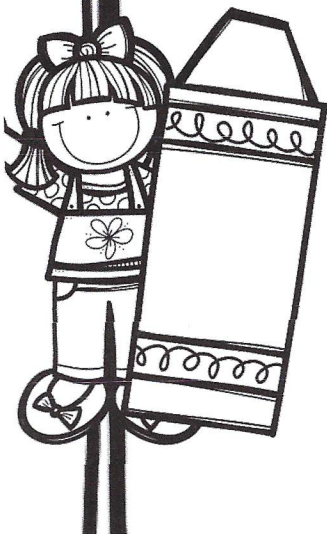
Make a Writing Basket

Find a basket and fill it with fun tools your child can use for writing!

Here are some ideas of things you can add:

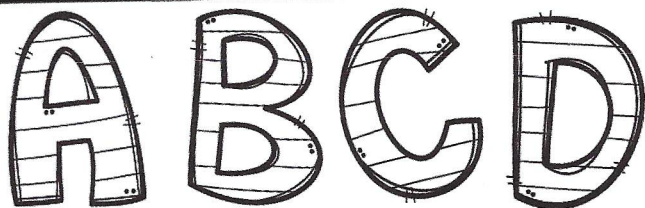
Crayons
Pencils
Markers
Note Pads
Stationary Paper
Construction Paper
Post-It Notes
Envelopes
Glitter Glue

Stapler
Scissors
Glue
Stickers
Tape
Stencils
Word Cards
Letter Cards
Letter Charts



Learning about Letters At Home

Give your child MANY opportunities to explore letters!

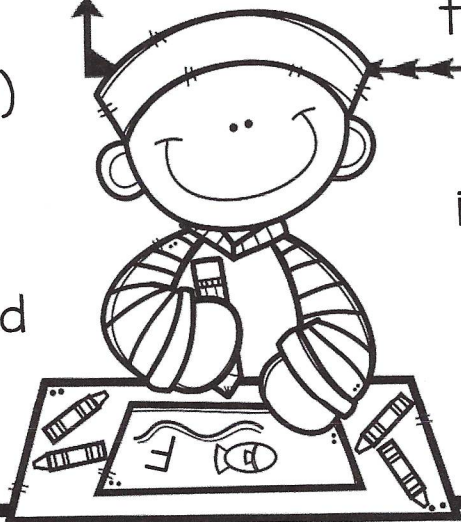


Things to Remember

- Learning about letters should be fun!
- Hands on experiences make the most impact.
- There are 26 letters (52 if you count uppercase and lowercase separately) in the alphabet. That's a lot of letters to learn.
- Start with the letters in your child's name and build from there. Go slowly. It will take time.

A Child's NAME

It is very likely that the first letter a child will learn is the first letter in his/her name. The next letters he/she will likely learn are the rest of the letters in his/her name and other important words such as mom and dad. Do activities with only the letters in your child's name and build from there!



Starfall is a fun, interactive website and app to help your child learn his/her letters.
www.starfall.com

Notice Letters EVERYwhere

The more you notice letters the more a child's curiosity about letters builds! It will make a HUGE difference! It is so exciting when your child begins noticing letters and starts asking you about the letters!

Go on a letter hunt around your home. Notice and talk about the letters you see!

When you are out in the community or in the car, notice the letters on signs, menus, ads, and labels.

Get magnet letters for the refrigerator. Start with just the letters in their name and SLOWLY add more and more letters.

Math at Home

Children develop positive feelings about math when they have fun math experiences at home with their family!



Things to Remember

1

- Exploring math should be fun!
- Allow your child to count, read numbers, explore shapes, create patterns, and measure at his/her own individual level.

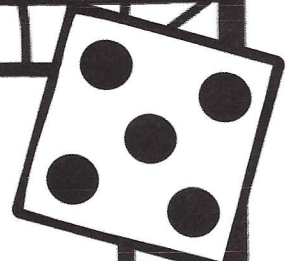
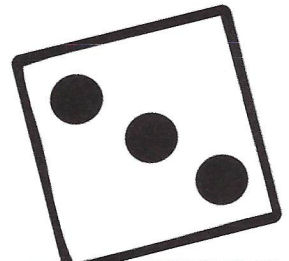
2

- Every child learns differently. That is what makes your child unique!

3

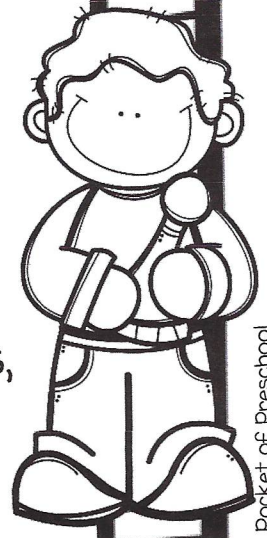
- Give hints, not answers.
- Celebrate and praise ALL math discoveries!

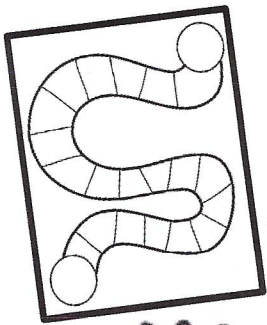
SHOW YOUR
CHILD HOW
YOU USE
MATH
EVERY DAY!



Fun Activities to Try

- ★ Count as you walk, jump, skip, march, or go up the stairs. Do one movement for each number.
- ★ Read counting books. Notice the number and count the objects as you read!
- ★ Make numbers and shapes with playdoh. First roll the playdoh into rolls (snakes). Use the rolls to form numbers and shapes.
- ★ Sort the laundry by color or clothing categories. Count the number of items in each pile. Which pile has the most/least?
- ★ Go on a shape hunt (inside or outside). Talk about the shapes. Feel and count the sides and/or corners.
- ★ Find markers that are the same size. Using markers, measure how many markers tall each person is in your family is by lining up the markers next to them.





Commercial Games That Incorporate Math

Candyland, Hi Ho Cherry-O, Trouble, Counting Cookies, Uno, Chutes and Ladders, Hungry Hungry Hippos, Cootie, The Sneaky Squirrel, The Ladybug Game, Barrel of Monkeys, Jenga, and puzzles

Using Hands on Materials at Home

Here is a list of math tools and items you may have at home that are great for exploring math! Be creative and have fun!

Just explore the materials or make up your own game!

EXPLORE COUNTING

- Coins, buttons, cotton balls
- Beans or uncooked pasta
- Small plastic animals
- Popsicle sticks
- Rocks or sea shells
- Cereal or small snacks
- Cupcake pans and egg cartons to count items in

EXPLORE SORTING

- Sort various items: coins, buttons, rocks, sea shells, seeds, blocks, lids, screws, nuts, bolts, cars, animals, blocks, and/or doll accessories
- Make collections of items to sort and treasure

EXPLORING PATTERNS

- Find patterns on clothing, wrapping paper, etc.
- Copy and/or make patterns using various items (buttons, lids, silverware)

EXPLORE MEASURING

- Measuring cups and/or spoons
- Various size bowls or containers
- Materials to measure and scoop such as water, sand, noodles, or cotton balls
- Measure by repeating an item such as blocks or cups
- Tape measures and rulers
- Scales
- Timers

EXPLORE SHAPES

- Build, create, and sort blocks and buttons

OTHER FUN MATH ITEMS

- Dice
- Cards
- Puzzles
- White board and markers
- Magnet numbers
- Chalk
- Maps



Fun Fine Motor at Home

Help your child develop the strength and motor control he/she needs to write and draw!

Things to Remember

Make it FUN and hands on! Children need ~~FREQUENT~~ frequent opportunities and a variety of materials to develop their fine motor control as well as eye hand coordination.

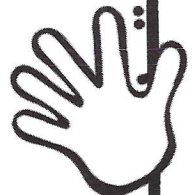


QUICK INFORMATION

Fine motor development involves the use of small muscles of the body (hands and fingers). It is the ability to pick up small items, color with crayons, copy designs, string beads, cut with scissors, draw shapes, and write letters.

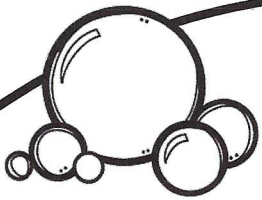
INCREASE CONTROL AND HAND STRENGTH

- Do a variety of puzzles.
- Tear paper and make a collage.
- Peel and stick stickers and/or tape to paper.
- Build or play with dominos.
- Color and write with broken crayons, short colored pencils, and thin markers.
- Offer tracing stencils or trace around objects.
- Build with small Legos or small wooden blocks.
- String beads, noodles, cereal using pipe cleaners or yarn.
- Play games or explore with tweezers or small tongs to pick up items such as cotton balls, marshmallows, cereal, pom poms, or small rocks. Commercial games that use tweezers are Bed Bugs, Thin Ice, and Crazy Octopus.
- Sprinkle salt, flour, or oatmeal onto a cookie sheet. Your child can use a finger to make lines, shapes, letters, and/or numbers. Gently shake the tray to erase.
- Paint with various types of brushes and on various surfaces (paper, foil, wax paper).
- Use hole punches, shape punches, and/or letter punches.



FUN ACTIVITIES TO TRY

- Go outside and make letters with chalk. Erase/trace the chalk with a wet paint brush.
- Make Lego or block letters. Write letters or add letter stickers on the sides of your child's legos and/or blocks. As they build, they can notice, talk about, and learn their letters.
- Go to the library and check out a few alphabet books. Notice and compare what the letters represent in each book.
- Make a name or word collage. Write a word or their name on a piece of paper. Have your child place stickers, dots, tissue paper, beads, etc. on top of the letters you made.
- Make letters with playdoh. First, roll the playdoh into rolls (snakes). Use the rolls to form the letters. You can also use letter cookie cutters!
- Play letters hide and seek! Take your magnet letters and hide them around the room and then find them! Put the letters in order at the end to make sure you have found all the letters!
- Sensory letters! Sprinkle salt, flour, or oatmeal onto a cookie sheet. Your child can use a finger to make letters. Gently shake the tray to erase so you can make more.
- Make a letter collage. Get a magazine or a store ad. Have your child cut out the letters they find. Glue the letters all over the page randomly. Glue matching letters next to each other. Put them in ABC order, or make words with the letters.



In the Tub

Bath time can be a fun time to learn about and make letters.

- Get foam letters for the tub. Start with the letters in their name and gradually add more SLOWLY.
- Lather shaving cream on the tub wall and practice making letters in the shaving cream.

MAKE LETTERS PART OF YOUR CHILD'S DAY! TALK, NOTICE, AND EXPLORE LETTERS EVERY DAY!



Items to Cut

Paper
Playdoh
Goop
Newspaper
Magazines
Coupons
Tissue Paper
Ribbon
Wrapping Paper
Fancy Paper
Leaves
Grass



Cutting

Show your child the correct way to hold the scissors, with the thumb up. Start by giving your child half inch strips of paper to cut. Gradually make the paper wider as your child's scissor skills strengthen.

You can draw thick black lines on paper for your child to cut along. Make simple shapes for your child to cut too!

Have your child make a collage with the items they cut out!



PLAYdoh & GOOP



There are endless activities your child can do with playdoh and goop! Roll the playdoh into balls or snakes, cut it with scissors, pinch off small pieces, or make a sculpture. Hide small objects (pennies or a small plastic animal) in the playdoh and then try to find it. Manipulate the playdoh to make pretend food. Get out a rolling pin and cookie cutters to make playdoh cookies! Make prints in the playdoh using buttons, toothpicks, popsicle sticks, small plastic animals, or sea shells.



Water Play

Water play can be a great time to incorporate fine motor fun! Add the items below and let the fun (and muscle building) begin!

- Eye droppers
- Turkey basters
- Bath squirters
- Spray bottles
- Sponges to squeeze
- Tongs and tweezers
- Containers with lids

