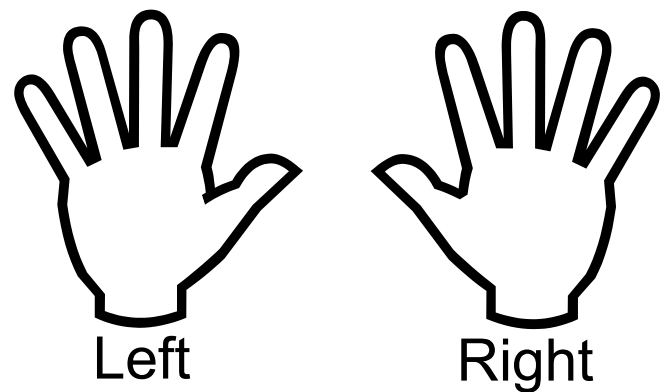


Write your name on the line

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9



Draw a line to match the shapes

How Many?

Count the items in each box and write number on the line

Draw a line to match the capital letter to the lower case letter

| | |
|---|---|
| J | m |
| A | n |
| S | c |
| B | d |
| M | a |
| D | j |
| C | s |
| N | b |

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz
 Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm
 Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

Getting Ready For Kindergarten

How You Can Help Your Child Prepare

Help your child develop an enthusiasm for learning...

- Encourage your child to explore and be aware of new things.
- Point out your child's environment and ask her questions about what she observes.
- Demonstrate how things work.

The more children notice, the more curious they become!

Enhance your child's listening skills...

- Read with your child. Stop every few pages and ask questions about what was just read.
- Talk to your child and ask him what he remembers about your conversation. For example, "After I pick you up from school, we are going to go to the grocery store and then cook chicken soup for dinner. What are we going to do after I pick you up from school?"
- Cook or build with your child. Read aloud the instructions for a simple recipe or project, then perform each step together.
- Listen to books on tape while in the car.
- Whisper to your child. Lower your voice and whisper slowly and clearly so your child must focus his attention on your words.
- Leave instructions for your child using a tape recorder or digital voice recorder. Leave a short chore list or send him on a "treasure hunt" using recorded clues.

Listening will be key to your child's success in school!

Help your child develop solid oral language skills and a large vocabulary...

- Take your child on short field trips to everyday places, such as a florist shop or the park. Talk about what you see along the way and when you get there.
- Go to familiar places and look for the people who work there. Discuss what jobs they perform and what tools they need to do the work.
- Compare and contrast things you see. Talk about how two things are alike and how they are different.
- Encourage your child to use descriptive words when she speaks. (*The soft, gray bunny nibbled on the leafy, green grass.*)
- After reading a book or watching a program on TV, ask your child to retell the story using her own words.

A well developed vocabulary is one of the best predictors of future success in reading.

Create opportunities for your child to practice using fine motor skills by challenging her to...

- String cheerios or beads on a ribbon or shoelace. Pinch a clothespin to strengthen muscles needed for gripping a pencil.
- Fill an empty spray bottle with water and provide a place where your child can spray. This will boost writing and cutting skills.
- Crumple a sheet of paper in one hand to build strength in the hand and forearm.
- Pick up marshmallows, cheerios, pennies, etc. with large tweezers.



Work with your child on basic letter recognition and number sense...

- Draw your child's attention to letters and numbers that already exist in his environment by pointing out street signs, store names, brands, etc.
- Play "Letter of the Day" by choosing what letter the two of you will be on the hunt for and then find it everywhere you can. Start with the letters in your child's name.
- Make magnetic letters available to your child and ask him to spell simple words for you while you cook dinner. Even scrambling the letters and making his own "nonsense" words will help build letter recognition.
- Play "I Spy" with your child. (*"I spy with my little eye something with the number 3."*)
- Sorting objects by shape or color will lay the foundation for basic geometry.
- Count out food at snack time (5 goldfish, 3 carrot sticks, 12 raisins, etc).

Help your child learn to play well with others...

- Teach your child about sharing, taking turns, compromising, and problem solving. Model these behaviors whenever possible.
- Encourage your child to express her feelings in words.
- Help your child to understand the feelings of others. Look at pictures and talk about how the person in the picture is feeling and how you can tell. (*"The little boy looks sad because the corners of his mouth are turned down, and he is crying."*)
- "Catch" your child playing well with others and praise her. Be specific when you point out the behaviors that you want her to continue. (*"I am so proud of you! It can be very hard to share your favorite toy but you did it. Good for you!"*)

Encourage your child's desire to be independent by encouraging him to do things on his own...

- Putting his coat on and off and hanging it up
- Following simple two-step instructions. (*Put your shoes away and then hang up your backpack.*)
- Putting on, tying or fastening, and taking off his own shoes
- Taking care of bathroom needs
- Blowing his own nose and covering his mouth when he coughs or sneezes
- Fastening and unfastening simple buttons and snaps
- Using utensils and eating without assistance