



READ
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**FAMILY LITERACY GUIDES & ACTIVITIES
PRE-KINDERGARTEN**

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Hello Families,

We're so excited to partner with you as your child learns to read!

Learning to read is one of the most important skills your child will ever build. It helps them succeed in school and in life. **Reading is a step-by-step journey, and you're your child's first and most important teacher.**

This packet is filled with simple, fun activities you can do at home using materials you already have. Our goal is to make learning feel like play. When children read, write, talk, and play, they grow stronger every day.

You may already be doing many of these things and that's wonderful! These guides will give you even more ideas to keep the fun going.

At the beginning of each grade section, you'll see a guide that shares what students are learning in school. This helps us all work toward the same goals. After the guide, you'll find easy activities to try at home. As you do them, remember to talk with your child. Ask questions. Let them explain their thinking. Sometimes, let your child be the teacher!

You'll also see teacher tips and the learning standards connected to each activity. This shows how your fun time together is building important skills.

Most of all, enjoy this time. Laugh, play, and learn together. When reading feels joyful, children grow into confident readers.

Please visit ReadWithMeNV.com or follow us @ReadWithMeNV on Instagram and Facebook for more helpful resources and fun learning ideas. You can also scan the QR code for quick access.

We're so glad to be on this journey with you!

With gratitude,
L3 Coalition





PRE-K GUIDE & ACTIVITIES



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FAMILY LITERACY GUIDE

Pre-Kindergarten



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What should my child know and be able to do by the end of Pre-Kindergarten?

LANGUAGE

- Listen carefully and understand what others are saying.
- Express their thoughts, needs, and ideas verbally or nonverbally.
- Use a growing vocabulary during play and other activities.

PRE-READING SKILLS

- Recognize letters of the alphabet and understand that letters help us read and write.
- Start to hear and play with sounds in words, such as recognizing words that rhyme or start with the same sound.
- Show that they know how print and books are read, for example, that we read from left to right and top to bottom.

READING TOGETHER

Pre-K children show these skills with books that are read to them by an adult.

- Retell a familiar story with two or more events in order.
- Talk about what they learned from stories, books, or literacy activities.

WRITING

- Draw pictures and tell about their drawing.
- Begin to share their ideas in writing using letters and symbols. *Children often start writing by making scribbles and marks. As they learn letters, they will write strings of letters or make up their own spelling. All of these attempts at writing are a normal part of the process of learning to write!*

Explore more activities
to support your child at
ReadwithMeNV.com!



How can I support my child's literacy learning?

All literacy activities can be done in your home language!

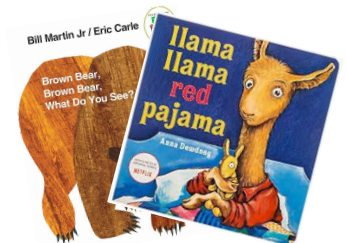
Talk with your child using big words, sentences, and ideas. Engage in conversations as much as you can.

Read to your child 20 minutes per day, and talk about what you read.



Look for stories and informational books with pictures that interest your child.

Books with repeating phrases and rhyming words are fun AND help your child learn pre-reading skills!



Provide opportunities for your child to **draw** and **write** at their own level.



"Mom I love you."
Source: Reading Rockets

Celebrate all attempts at writing!
At this age, encouraging is more important than correcting.

DIY ALPHABET POSTERS

Make your own display of letters and sounds.

Grade Range: Pre-K, Kinder

Time Required: 10–15 minutes per poster



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OVERVIEW:

Work with your child to create an alphabet poster that show words that begin with the letter. Over time, you can make the full alphabet!

MATERIALS:

- A piece of paper for each poster
- Coloring tools such as crayons, markers, or coloring pencils

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Tell your child that you are going to make your own posters to learn letters and sounds. Pick a letter to start with.**

You can make your posters in alphabetic order or start with letters in your child's name.

2. **Write the upper and lowercase letter on the paper.**

- You can write the letters in pencil first and have your child trace over with colors of their choice.
- Make sure to help them write the letter using the correct formation.

3. **Ask or tell your child the sound the letter sound.**

4. **Fill the paper with pictures of things that start with the letter.**

- Work with your child to think of words.
- Have your child draw pictures.
- Label your child's drawings.

5. **Display the posters in your child's room.**

Make a habit of using the posters to practice letters and sounds.



Learning Goals (Standards Aligned)

- Name and produce the sound for several letters.
- Identify beginning sounds in some spoken words.

Why This Helps

Learning letters and sounds takes a lot of exposure and repetition! Making their own letter posters can motivate children to practice.

Tips For Families

Make one or two posters at a time. Creating the whole alphabet is a project that you can work on over a long period.

SIDEWALK WRITING

Practice letter formation with large writing.

Grade Range: Pre-K, Kinder

Time Required: 5-15 minutes



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OVERVIEW:

Your child will write large letters on the sidewalk using water or chalk. With your help, they will learn how to correctly form letters.

MATERIALS:

- An old paint brush and water OR
- Sidewalk chalk
- Optional: letter cards

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. Find a paved space where you can write.**
Writing with an old paint brush and water is super fun for kids, and it's a great option if you don't want to leave chalk behind.
- 2. Pick a letter.**
Name a letter or ask your child to name one. You can also practice the letters in their name.
- 3. Help your child write the letter using the correct formation.**
 - Narrate how the letter should be formed. For example, "Let's make a B. Start at the top, straight line down. Back to the top, curve, curve."
 - If needed, show an example.
- 4. Encourage and celebrate effort!**
Your child's letters probably won't be perfect yet, and that's ok!



Learning Goals (Standards Aligned)

- Name and write letters of the alphabet.
- Name writing.

Why This Helps

Learning and practice the correct way to form letters will help your child build good habits as they learn to write.

Tips For Families

Writing large letters is helpful because Pre-K children are still developing their hand strength and coordination.

BECOMING AN AUTHOR

Engage your child in storytelling.

Grade Range: Pre-K, Kinder

Time Required: 15+ minutes



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OVERVIEW:

Work with your child to tell a story and create a book. The story can be real or from their imagination.

MATERIALS:

- A few pieces of paper
- Coloring tools such as crayons, markers, or coloring pencils

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Make a book.

Fold a few sheets of paper in half to make a book. Staple the book if you have a stapler.

2. Encourage your child to tell you a story.

- Tell your child that they are going to become an author of their very own book.
- As they tell their story, write down what they say, with a sentence on each page.
- On the last page, ask how their story ends, and write the ending.

3. Have your child illustrate the book.

- Go back and read each page.
- Ask your child to draw and color a picture to match each sentence.
- Give the book a title and decorate the cover.

4. Celebrate your child's book!

Read your child's book and share it with other people, like family members or their teacher.



Learning Goals (Standards Aligned)

- Express ideas verbally.
- Draw to show ideas.
- Understand that ideas can be expressed through writing.

Why This Helps

Pre-K children are learning about the purposes of print. Making a book helps them see how writing can be used to tell stories.

Tips For Families

It's ok to make the book over multiple days! Pause and come back if your child gets tired or loses interest.

BEGINNING SOUND MIX UP

A silly sound game you can play anytime.

Grade Range: Pre-K, Kinder

Time Required: 5 min or less



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OVERVIEW:

In this fun and easy game, you will change beginning sounds to make silly words. Your child will help identify the mixed-up sound.

MATERIALS:

- No special materials needed

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Introduce the game.

“I’m feeling a little silly and mixed up today. I keep making words start with the wrong letter! Can you help me if I mix up my words?”

2. Play the game by naming objects around you with the wrong beginning sound. Ask your child to tell you the sound that you mixed up.

- Adult: Is this a ‘bork’?
- Child: No, a fork!
- Adult: What sound should it start with?
- Child: ‘f’
- Adult: Oh a fork! Thank you for your help!

3. Once your child knows the game, you can play it in free moments throughout the day by saying mixed up words.

For example, in the car, you can ask your child if they want to roll up their “pindow.” Children love “catching” adults making a mistake!



Learning Goals (Standards Aligned)

- Hear and play with beginning sounds in words.

Why This Helps

Playing with sounds in words sets your child up to be able to sound out words when reading and spelling.

Tips For Families

As your child gets better at this game, they can start making up their own silly words.

SYLLABLE CLAP

Clap the syllables, or beats, in words.

Grade Range: Pre-K, Kinder

Time Required: 5 min or less



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OVERVIEW:

You will practice breaking down words into syllables by clapping. This game can be played anytime!

MATERIALS:

- Any toys or other household objects

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS:

- Introduce the game.**
Tell your child that you are going to find out how many syllables are in different words by clapping.
- Show an object or picture. Clap the syllables in the word.**
“Spiderman. Spi-[clap] der-[clap] man-[clap]. Three syllables!”
- Take turns with your child choosing a word and clapping the syllables.**
- Once your child is familiar with syllables, you can play this game in free moments.**
For example, at the park, you could say, “There’s a playground. Can you clap the syllables in playground?”



Learning Goals (Standards Aligned)

- Hear and play with syllables in words.

Why This Helps

Children need to be able to break up syllables in words in order to read and spell words with more than one syllable.

Tips For Families

Search “syllable song” on YouTube for many fun videos to learn about syllables.



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