

Preparing for Pre-K

Reading and Math Readiness Skills

Reading Readiness

In Pre-K, children expand their vocabulary and learn about letters. As your child works on these skills in Pre-K, there are a number of things you can do at home to help build your child's reading readiness skills.

Pre-K reading activities

Here are some of the skills your child is likely to work on in Pre-K.

- ▶ learning the alphabet
- ▶ recognizing letters and the sounds they make
- ▶ finding words that rhyme

Read aloud to your child

Reading books together expands vocabulary, stimulates the imagination, and teaches children to listen. It also nurtures a special bond between you and your child.

As you read, talk about the pictures and the story, and ask questions. *"What do you think will happen next?" "How do you think that character felt?"*

Look for words in everyday life

Increase your child's interest in reading by showing that words are all around us.

- ▶ When driving, look for familiar words on store fronts, street signs, and billboards.
- ▶ While watching TV, running errands, or playing games, point out words your child might know.



VIDEO

For more, watch this short video!

Math Readiness

In Pre-K, children build math readiness skills—skills that will help them do more complicated math in the years to come.

Pre-K math activities

Here are some of the skills your child is likely to work on in Pre-K.

- ▶ counting (including understanding what “how many” means)
- ▶ sorting items by color or shape
- ▶ comparing objects using terms like *bigger*, *smaller*, *more*, and *less*
- ▶ identifying and drawing shapes

Look for numbers in everyday life

Throughout the day, look for opportunities to count items, compare and sort objects, and use numbers.

- ▶ As you drive around town, point out the numbers you see on buildings, billboards, street signs, and houses.
- ▶ When you see a number, ask what number comes next. *“We’re reading page 11. What number comes after 11?”*
- ▶ Talk about the numbers you see on items such as calendars, cereal boxes, and clocks.
- ▶ Have your child count the carrots on their plate or the coins in your wallet. Before eating a bag of M&Ms, count how many there are of each color.



For more, watch this short video!