

Preschool Age Language Literacy Activities

Read with your kiddo

Read their favorite book or have them “read” it to you. Your child might not be able to read all or any of the words on the page but having your child retell the story based on the pictures is an important skill for them to have. Read street signs, billboards, restaurant names when out for a walk in your neighborhood or on a drive in the car.

Reciting Nursery Rhymes

Sing your child’s favorite nursery rhyme song or teach them your favorite. Nursery rhymes are generally short and repetitive, children will be able to master the song quickly and be able to sing along with you. Some popular nursery rhymes include; BINGO, Head Shoulders Knees and Toes, Hickory Dickory Dock, If You’re Happy and You know it.

Shopping List

Talk to your child about what you need from the store for your household. Have child write down the items you need from the store, it does not matter if there are spelling mistakes, missing letters or if the list does not have any real words or letters on it, this is just the beginning of your child learning to write.

Labeling your Home

First start by talking to your child about the name of objects in your home, this can be things like the refrigerator or small things like a toaster, make sure your child knows the names of each object. Use small pieces of paper to put labels on each object, leave labels on furniture or objects for as long as you can. If child is in the beginning stages on reading, is able to sound out letters or is working on sight words, make the labels and have your child label the household, talk to your child about the letter sounds.

Alphabet matching

Write the letters of the alphabet on pieces of paper and have child put the letters in order, if child is proficient in ordering the letters, start putting letters together to make 3-4 letter words

Play dough sensory writing tray

Write capital and lower case letters on note cards. Put play dough on plate and spread it out, have child make letters in play dough using small pebbles

Let’s Illustrate!

Read your child a story without looking at the pictures. Tell them they are going to “illustrate” this story. Ask them what happened first-draw it, then what-draw it, next-draw it, at the end-draw it. Have them retell the story using their illustrations.

Main Character Interview

Read and reread a book your child enjoys. Tell them they are going to interview the main character. Make a microphone out of foil. Sit with your child and have them formulate a list of questions. Then pretend you are the main character and answer the questions. This can also be done the other way around.

Letter of the Day

Pick a letter of the day, you can plan a letter for each day on Sunday so you are ready for the week. When you have your letters picked, the whole day should be that letter themed. If the letter of the day is "S", you can read books about Space, use Star stickers to count with, have spaghetti for dinner. During the day have child practice writing the letter uppercase and lower case, help child think of words that start with that letter.

Touchy-Feely Bags

All you need for this activity is a cloth bag (any bag will work as long as you cannot see through it). Find small household items that will be safe for child to touch. Put the objects in the bag, have child reach in and touch the objects, have child describe the objects and you guess what they are describing. This activity is a good opportunity for child to use description words like; soft, hard, round, flat. If child is unable to describe item, use this as a chance to talk to your child and provide them with the words they are looking for.