

Extra Activities

Words All Around Us

Bring print to life in your home and your community. Provide opportunities for your child to see you writing letters, reading books, newspapers, or magazines, using the calendar, paying bills, writing e-mails, or reading a recipe. Point out store signs, a menu board in a drive thru, billboards, and road signs.

Kindergarten Connection: Preschoolers are just becoming aware that print is all around them. Kindergarten will increase their ability to recognize print and be able to identify the messages found in print within their environment.

Book
Read Signs by Tana Hoban.
Introduces signs and symbols frequently seen along the street.

Weather Report

Read the weather report with your child to decide which clothes to wear.

Kindergarten Connection: In kindergarten, children will look at words and charts to draw conclusions.

Book
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs by Judi Barrett.
A tall tale of the town of Chewandswallow, where the weather is served three times a day.

Simon Says

Reinforce newly learned words by using them in the game, "Simon Says." Example: "Simon says touch your wrist. Simon says gallop."

Kindergarten Connection: In kindergarten, children will learn new words by connecting them to words they already know. The more words children know upon entering kindergarten, the easier it will be to make these connections.

Book
Hop on Pop by Dr. Seuss.
Pairs of rhyming words are introduced and used in simple sentences.

WORDS & LANGUAGE: EXTRA ACTIVITIES

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A Utah Family Center / Utah PTA Project



Book
Chicka, Chicka, Boom, Boom by Bill Martin.
All the letters of the alphabet race each other up the coconut tree.

Book
The Jolly Mon by Jimmy and Savannah.
Relates the adventures of a fisherman who finds a magic guitar floating in the Caribbean Sea.

Book
Tell Me a Story, Mama by Angela Johnson.
A young girl and her mother remember together all the girl's favorite stories about her mother's childhood.

Kindergarten Connection: Kindergarten will hear and write letters to represent sounds and match sounds to the correct letters.

Put magnetic letters on your refrigerator for your child to play with and to build words. Children love to create their own words by putting together random letters and then asking what their "words" say. Sound out and point to the letters as you read the invented word to your child. Be prepared to play this game over and over.

Letters on the Fridge

Kindergarten Connection: In kindergarten, children will develop language through a variety of media, including music.

Choose child-friendly radio stations (like Radio Disney, AM 970) and music to sing along with your child. CDs are available from your local library or Family Center for free checkout.

Car Boogie

Kindergarten Connection: Children develop language through listening and speaking. With practice, children learn to listen attentively, demonstrate understanding by responding appropriately, and speak clearly with expression as they communicate ideas.

Turn off the radio. Use time in the car to talk with your child about friends, food, games, and events, or to plan or review the day.

Car Talk