



# Get Ready 4 KINDERGARTEN

*Building a bridge from home to school*

Get Ready 4 Kindergarten's preschool program is based on the Five Building Blocks of Early Learning. Each month activities are linked by a theme. In this Monthly Learning Guide, we've outlined some simple ways to work on skills with your preschooler to help get them ready for kindergarten and success in school.



## Five Building Blocks of Early Learning:



**TALK** with your child often about everything! Every conversation builds their vocabulary and vocabulary is the key to learning.



**READ** to your child at least once a day! Make reading a fun part of your routine.



**THINK:** Guide your child to question and look deeper into their world.



**PLAY** some kind of game every day with your child! Hide and seek, catch, color or an object hunt - it doesn't matter what, just play together!



**DO** more things together: cook, color, walk the dog, explore the outdoors, visit a new place (zoo, park, store).

## Do something fun together

**Visit an apple orchard or farmer's market near you!**

Do you have an orchard or farmer's market/stand near you? If so, visit one! While you are there, look for different types of apples. Ask your child to pick a few apples to try at home.

You can look for farmer's markets and apple orchards near you on line at:

[www.orangeppippin.com/orchards](http://www.orangeppippin.com/orchards)

DO

# BUILDING BLOCKS Monthly Learning Guide

## September

**This month, we are learning about Apples**



This time of year is when we start to see apple orchards open for picking and apple stands pop up on corners. Time to enjoy fresh apple sauce or a warm apple pie.

**Look** for different colored apples: Red, yellow, green, or multi-colored!

**Talk** about apples, trees, and apple orchards. Talk about the funny names some apples have: Granny Smith, pippin, sugar bee, snow, pink lady, and king.

**Cut up** an apple and look at the parts: seed, skin, stem, core.

**Bake** an apple in the oven and watch it change.

**Explain** that applesauce is made from apples; make your own applesauce (find a simple recipe online).

**Read** books about apples from the library.

## TALK

**Skill to Practice: Take turns speaking and listening; start to use the word "today" often during the day**

Talk to your child throughout the day; asking them questions and engaging them in conversation. Start to refer to this day as "today". In the morning, talk about how "today" will flow with your child; tell them any events that will happen that day (library hour, errands, playground, gymnastics, preschool).

**apple • seed • core • stem  
fruit • orchard**

**Fit new words into your day:** Describe each word to your child. Point out examples in books and TV shows, playing outside, or while running errands. (They do not need to read or write these words.) They will start to add them to their speaking vocabulary when they hear you using them.



[www.getready4kindergarten.com](http://www.getready4kindergarten.com)

# BUILDING BLOCKS

## Learning Guide



### SCIENCE: Make some observations

What's inside an apple? Cut two apples in half two different ways. This will give your child a chance to see the same things from two different perspectives. Cut one at a time and carefully examine the details. Then, compare what's the same and different. Point out the seeds and the little pockets inside the apple that hold them.

### MATH: Coin and paper money are different

Just different, that's all for now. When you use real money to make a purchase, call attention to the giving of money and receiving change. Show your child the bills and coins, let them touch them to feel the difference in texture and weight. Then wash hands.

### LANGUAGE: Recognize familiar signs/logos

Start with stop signs and the signs for their favorite restaurant. When they recognize them, they're putting pictures of the words into their memory bank and that is an early level of reading.

THINK



Pictured: Birthday Box Kindercarton

**KINDER CARTONS:** Complete preschool curriculum (math, language, and science), theme-based books, craft kits, word cards and more! Birthday box available too!

### Skills to Practice: Handle books correctly and carefully

Learning to respect books is part of being a reader. Here's some good tips for teaching your child how to handle books.

- Handle books with clean hands
- Hold books right side up.
- Books are not toys.
- Turn pages gently and one at a time.
- Enjoy the pictures and the story.
- Snuggling is a special part of reading a book.

### Books about Apples:

Apples by Gail Gibbons

Fall Apples, Crisp and Juicy by Martha Rustaad

Apples by Jacqueline Farmer

Johnny Appleseed by Jodie Shepherd

Up, Up, Up! It's Apple Picking Time by Jodi Fickes Shapiro

The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree by Gail Gibbons

Apple Countdown by Joan Halub

READ

### Imaginative Play: Apple Farm Stand

With your child, build a pretend apple farm stand in your house or yard.

**Gather supplies:** a piece of paper to make a sign, a cash register or money box, money (real or pretend), baskets to hold apples, and apples (real apples, plastic ones, paper cutouts, small balls).

**Play:** Your child can "sell" apples, you can "buy" apples, and then you can switch roles. Use apple vocabulary to talk about the apples you are "selling" and "buying."

PLAY

## ART PROJECT: Torn Paper Apple

### Materials:

- Red, yellow, green, brown construction paper
- White paper for background
- Marker or pencil (for adult to use)
- Glue stick

### Directions:

1. Draw a circle in the middle of the background paper. (The shorter the child's attention span, the smaller the circle should be. An oatmeal container lid is a nice size for your child to trace with your help.)
2. Let the child rip red, yellow or green paper into small pieces while you draw and cut out a stem and leaf for the "apple" (You can draw a rectangle for the stem and an oval for the leaf).
3. Let the child cover the apple with pieces of torn paper using glue stick.



DO