



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

Field-trip ideas:

Go Fly a Kite! On a windy day, find a large open outside area to fly a kite with your child. Look online to find popular places to fly kites near you and watch others fly kites.

Airport Runway: Park near the airport runway and watch the planes take off and land. Ask your child where they think the people are going!

DO

BUILDING BLOCKS Monthly Learning Guide

July

This month, we are learning about Things That Fly.

Things That Fly is a tough theme to explain to your child, but planes and helicopters and rockets and all things flying are just so exciting for children!

Let's start with some background info for parents:



Airplanes are any type of power-driven aircraft that has fixed wings and is heavier than air. An airplane moves through the air with the help of its engine and wings. The wings are shaped in a particular way so that air flows over them and gives them lift. Helicopters have a very different design, but the basic flight science is the same.

Aerodynamics is the way air moves around things. The rules of aerodynamics explain how an airplane is able to fly. Anything that moves through air reacts to aerodynamics. A rocket blasting off the launch pad and a kite in the sky both react to aerodynamics.

TALK

Skill to Practice: Take turns speaking and listening and asking questions

A typical day of kindergarten starts with circle time. Children will take turns sharing ideas and answers, asking questions, and listening politely to others. It's so much easier for a child when they already know how to take turns in conversation.

Skill to Practice: Calling people by name in conversation

When your child starts school, they'll be expected to learn the names of their classmates and teachers.

**fly • airplane • helicopter • propeller
wing • pilot • airport • hot air balloon**

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.)



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BUILDING BLOCKS

Learning Guide



Learn about Simple machines:

There are 6 kinds of Simple Machines: wheel and axle, lever, pulley, screw, wedge, and inclined plane. Simple machines help us do work.

Try and slide a heavy box across a bumpy yard. Is it hard or easy? Now put the box on top of a toy truck or a skateboard and try again. Is it easier? Trucks and cars are the most common wheel and axle toys.

Another simple machine to play with is an inclined plane or ramp. Or make your arm a lever and lift the toys like a crane to move them from one place to another.

Letter hunt: Help your child recognize their first name in print by focusing on the first letter. Draw or print out a large letter (for example if your child's name is Tyrone, print out the letter T). Tape the letter somewhere you'll see it often and point it out to them. "That's the letter T, your name Tyrone begins with T." Look for Ts everywhere!

THINK



Pictured: April kindercarton (frogs)

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

READ

Skills to Practice: Ask questions about the stories you read. Share an opinion about story and characters.

Look at the cover and ask your child what they think the book is about. While reading, ask "What do you think will happen next?" After you finish the book, ask what they thought of the story. You may need to ask them more questions to help them form an opinion.

Books about Things That Fly:

Airshow by Treat Williams

The Airport Book by Lisa Brown

Zoey's First Plane Ride by Kaela Harmon

Mae Jemison by Mary Nhin

Planes by Richard Scarry

Helicopters by Mari Schuh

The Little Airplane by Lois Lenski

National Geographic Kids Planes by Amy Shields

Going on a Plane by Usborne

My First Airplane Ride by Patricia Hubbell

Choppers - Step into reading by Susan E. Goodman

PLAY

Skill to Practice: Take turns and talk about the games before you play them.

GAME: Pack the Suitcase Relay Race

You need: 1 suitcase per team, 2 piles of things to pack in each suitcase. Divide your family into 2 teams - 1 adult and 1 child on each team or however you can make it work. Set up a pile of clothes, shoes, etc to go in each suitcase. Set a chair about 20 feet away from the starting line. The first person packs the empty suitcase, closes it, runs to the chair and runs back to the start. He empties the suitcase and gives it to the next person in line. They pack the suitcase, run the path, empty the suitcase and the next person goes. First team done, wins.

ART PROJECT: Patriotic Windsock Craft

Materials:

- Blue construction paper
- White paint
- String
- Red and white paper streamers
- Tape or glue

Directions:

1. On one side of the paper, tape the streamers across the long side of the blue construction paper.
2. Flip it over and decorate it by painting white stars.
3. Once the paint dries, tape the blue construction paper into a cylinder and then tape string to the end that doesn't have streamers.
4. Hang outside and watch it blow in the wind!



DO