



# 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

**Take a virtual tour of a fire station:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MDhfKlBkzs4>

**Learn about all the gear firefighters wear to protect them** with Sparky the Fire Dog: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lro2OT9yqBA>. Helpful so kids aren't scared of firefighters in the full gear.

DO

# BUILDING BLOCKS Monthly Learning Guide

October

**This month, we are learning about Fire Safety**



National Fire Prevention Week is October 4-8 in 2020. The push for Fire Safety to save lives and property started way back in 1922; President Calvin Coolidge declared the first Fire Prevention Week way back in 1925.

This year the focus of Fire Prevention Week is on preventing kitchen fires. Kitchen fires are the number 1 cause of house fires in America. Teaching our children to be safe in the kitchen is a life-long gift we can give them. More resources can be found at [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org) and [www.sparky.org](http://www.sparky.org).

**STOP, DROP, and ROLL!** Talk to your child about what to do in an emergency. Stop, Drop, and Roll is taught by schools and firefighters to help children know what to do if their clothes catch on fire. This can be a scary situation to talk about with your kids, but it is fun to practice.

## TALK

**Skill to Practice: Keep working on taking turns speaking and listening**

Practice taking turns in all kinds of activities so it will become a natural part of your child's behavior and personality. A child who can take turns is a child who respects others and will have a head start on group skills before they even start kindergarten. Working in a group is essential to the way children learn in school today.

**fire engine • fire fighter • fire house  
hose • ladder • hydrant • EXIT**

**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

Do a fire safety check on your home. Where are the smoke detectors? How many are there? Explain what they do to your child. Push the test button, so they can hear the loud sound they make. Here's fun song about a family fire drill, featuring Sparky the Fire Dog: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8OVHhkqpZf8>.

### MATH: Identify and copy a/b patterns

An a/b pattern is 2 different things repeating in order. Like cheerio, wheat chex, cheerio, wheat chex. Or red block, blue block, red block, blue block.

### LANGUAGE: Take turns speaking and listening.

Taking turns is a critical part of being in a family or community. Encourage this behavior by talking about it. "We're taking turns telling about our day. Yesterday Maria went first, today Dad starts." Carry this over into who chooses the veggie for dinner or what book to read first.

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!

READ

### Skills to Practice: Designate a home library shelf or basket

Build on last month's skill of treating books with respect and encourage your child to put their books away when they're done reading them.

#### Books about Fire Safety:

##### Big Frank's Fire Truck

by Leslie McGuire

##### A Day in the Life of a Firefighter

By Linda Hayward

##### Fire! Fire!

By Gail Gibbons

##### Go, Go, Fire Trucks!

By Bonnie Rickner Jensen

##### I want to be a Firefighter

By Dan Leibman

##### The Berenstain Bears Visit the Firehouse

By Mike Berenstain

##### The Fire Engine Book

Illustrated by Tibor Gergely

##### A Day at the Fire Station

by Richard Scary

PLAY

### Games to play: Simon Says, Follow the Leader

Training our children to follow directions immediately in the case of an emergency can make the difference in saving a life. These 2 games practice those skills in a fun way. Though fire safety is not a game, games can be used to teach and reinforce the skills we all need to be safe.

When your children start school, they'll be participating in monthly fire drills. It is critical that they take these practices seriously, you can help the teachers keep your children safe by laying some learning seeds this month as you talk about and practice fire safety as a family.

## ART PROJECT: Paper Roll Sparky

### Materials:

- Red paper
- Black paper
- Toilet paper roll
- Scissors
- Googly eyes
- Black and red markers
- Glue

### Directions:

1. Cut red construction into the shape of a fire helmet. Use black marker to write FIRE or draw a badge
2. Use marker to draw face and spots on paper roll
3. Cut oblong oval ears out of black paper
4. Glue hat, ears, and eyes to paper roll and allow to dry
5. Use your Sparky the Fire Dog to let your child tell someone what they learned about fire safety this month!



DO