

JULY 2018

Welcome to



WWW.ISD728.ORG/KINDERGARTEN

KINDERGARTEN READINESS SKILL

USES SCISSORS, PENCILS, CRAYONS, GLUE AND GLUE STICKS CAREFULLY

Using art is an effective and fun, hands-on way to extend your child's learning about ideas and concepts that you have discussed with him. You will need: markers, pens, pencils, or other writing tools; large piece of paper; glue; scissors; magazines. What to do:*

1. Think about ideas you have recently read or talked about that sparked your child's interest. Gather magazines that contain pictures representing these concepts. For example, if you have talked about different insects, look for magazines that include pictures of a variety of insects. Some other ideas are vehicles, flowers, or birds.
2. Invite your child to make a poster for the idea you have talked about.
3. Explain that they may draw pictures to represent their ideas or cut them out of magazines and glue them to the large paper.
4. Encourage them to talk to you about what they are drawing or gluing to the paper.
5. Write down some of your child's words or encourage them to add their own words to the poster.
6. When the poster is finished and the glue has dried, invite your child to help you hang it on the wall. Encourage them to share the poster with their friends and family members and explain their drawings or the pictures he chose to include.



KINDERGARTEN READINESS SKILL

WAITS APPROPRIATELY

A simple sequence-of-movement game like "Mother, May I?" encourages your child to follow more complex directions. It also helps them to strengthen large muscles and develop coordination. What to do:

1. If possible, include other children in the game. Explain to the children that you will be playing a game together called "Mother, May I?"
2. Tell them that you are the "mother." Stand at least 10 feet away from the children and encourage them face you.
3. Request a child to perform a specific large-muscle movement (e.g., hop, skip, jump, or walk). Take five baby steps. Encourage them to respond, "mother, may I?" Respond, "yes, you may."
4. Continue to give each child a turn until one of them reaches you. Invite them to become the "mother."
5. Observe how your child follows directions. To make this activity more challenging, give your child a direction that includes three or more steps. Take 1 giant step, 3 tiptoe steps, and 2 leapfrog jumps.
6. Continue the game for as long as your child is interested.

SUMMER LEARNING BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

There are so many ways you can continue summer learning for your little ones when school is no longer in session. Here are a few things you can practice over the summer to help make your child's kindergarten experience more successful.

- **Practice Letter Names & Sounds:** Learn letters in fun ways by playing alphabet or letter match games, play ABC Bingo, make letter flashcards and have a letter search or play ABC puzzles.
- **Writing Name:** Your child should know the letters in his/her name and be able to identify their name. They will need to write their name in kindergarten. Get a notebook that they can practice printing their name with a pencil.
- **Numbers and Counting:** It's helpful if your child can count to 10 and recognize numerals 1-10. Practice counting to 20, putting written numbers in order from 1-10 and counting objects. Read and sing songs with numbers and count whenever possible.
- **Practice Self-Help Skills:** Practice tying shoes, putting on a jacket, zipping, buttoning and bathroom needs. Give your child opportunities to do these types of activities by themselves.
- **Chores or Household Tasks:** Give your child some chores that they can help with like watering plants, setting the dinner table, feeding the pet or picking up their room.
- **Practice Fine Motor Skills:** Have your child use many school tools from pencils, markers, crayons, glue sticks.
- **Practice Physical Development Skills:** Engage your child to do many large motor skills from hopping, balancing, pedaling bike/tricycle, throwing and catching a ball.
- **Time With Friends:** Plan play dates so your child can have social experiences with other children. It gives them opportunities that will teach them how to get along with others, share, express themselves, build friendship skills, and to encourage positive interactions.
- **Practice Eating Out of a Lunch Box:** Let your child pick out a lunch box that they would like to use for school. A few times this summer, go for a picnic and have your child use their new lunch box to practice.
- **Give Your Child Some Independent Space:** Give your child some time to do things on their own, to play in their room by themselves, and to have some free time to let them play whatever they like without a schedule.
- **Talk About Strangers & Safety:** Discuss with your child the concept of strangers, people they can trust and teach body safety.
- **Read, Read, Read:** It's still important to read to your child daily. During the story, ask your child questions about the theme, characters or predictions of the book.
- **Talk To Your Child About Kindergarten:** Talk to your child about what they should expect at kindergarten. Keep it light and breezy. Share your favorite memories of Kindergarten.



ELK RIVER | OTSEGO | ROGERS | ZIMMERMAN

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BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CHILDCARE

Register for ISD 728 Community Education's EdVenture Club childcare program! EdVenture Club features FUN enrichment activities such as reading, math, physical education, science, art and much more! With extended hours, part-time and full-time options, as well as flexible schedules, EdVenture Club is sure to meet everyone's needs! Visit www.isd728.org/EdVentureClub.

