

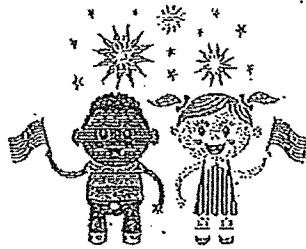
Dear Parents,

I look forward to welcoming your child into my Kindergarten classroom in a few months!! Attached you will find a summer packet that will help your child better prepare for the beginning of a new school year. Additionally, you may want to find fun games that can play online (www.starfall.com is a great website) as well as on your Iphone, Ipad, or smartphones. (Many free apps offer practice with letter identification, color/shape recognition, etc.) The GW Teacher Supply Store, "Professor Toy" in Riverpark, and the Dollar Tree have many workbooks and board games designed to make learning fun...it's summer...have fun while learning! I encourage you to read a bedtime story nightly to your child, take them to the library, play "I spy the letter ___" on car trips, and help your child be excited for Kindergarten!

I hope you have a wonderful summer and I look forward to being your child's teacher in the fall!

God Bless,

Mrs. Marquez





Kindergarten Suggested Summer Reading List



Note: The following books are only suggestions. Please feel free to add any books that are appropriate for your reader. The staff in the children's area of the public library will also have many wonderful suggestions for you.

Research has shown that the single greatest factor in predicting reading success is whether a child is read to when young. Here are some titles to get you started!

Books About Me

- *I Like Me!* by Nancy L. Carlson
- *I Like to Be Little* by Charlotte Zolotow
- *The Mixed-Up Chameleon* by Eric Carle
- *My Five Senses* by Alki
- *Owen* by Kevin Henkes
- *When I Get Bigger* by Mercer Mayer

Family Stories

- *Just Me Books* by Mercer Mayer
- *Mama Do You Love Me?* by Barbara M. Joosse

Predictable Books

(Stories with a pattern using rhyme or rhythm.)

- *Curious George* by H. A. Rey
- *Each Peach Pear Plum* by Janet and Allan Ahlberg
- *The Gingerbread Boy* by Paul Galdone
- *Gregory the Terrible Eater* by Mitchell Sharnat
- *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown
- *Millions of Cats* by Wanda Gág
- *What's in Fox's Sack?* by Paul Galdone

Beginning, Middle, and End Concept

- *Bony-Legs* by Joanna Cole
- *A Camping Spree with Mr. Magee* by Chris Van Dusen
- *Love You Forever* by Robert Munsch
- *Rosie's Walk* by Pat Hutchins
- *The Runaway Bunny* by Margaret Wise Brown

Color and Counting Books

- *Each Orange Had Eight Slices: A Counting Book* by Paul Giganit Jr.
- *Fish Eyes: A Book You Can Count On* by Lois Ehlert
- *Frog Counts to Ten* by John Liebler
- *Inch by Inch* by Leo Lionni
- *Is It Red? Is It Yellow? Is It Blue?* by Tana Hoban
- *Planting a Rainbow* by Lois Ehlert
- *Ten Bears in My Bed: A Goodnight Countdown* by Stanley Mack
- *Ten Little Fish* by Audrey Wood
- *26 Letters and 99 Cents* by Tana Hoban

Caldecott Winners and Honor Books

- *Color Zoo* by Lois Ehlert
- *Maddie* by Ludwig Bemelmans
- *More, More, More Said the Baby* by Vera B. Williams
- *Officer Buckle and Gloria* by Peggy Rathman
- *Swimmy* by Leo Lionni
- *Tops and Bottoms* by Janet Stevens

Mother Goose and Nursery Rhymes

- *James Marshall's Mother Goose* by James Marshall
- *My Very First Mother Goose* by Iona Ople and Rosemary Wells
- *Tomie dePaola's Mother Goose* by Tomie dePaola

Folktales and Fairy Tales

- *Chicken Little* by Steven Kellogg
- *Cinderella* by Marcha Brown
- *The Hare and the Tortoise* by Brian Wildsmith
- *Henny Penny* by H. Werner Zimmermann
- *The Little Red Hen* by Margot Zemach
- *The Three Bears* by Paul Galdone
- *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* by Peter Christen Asbjornsen
- *Three Little Pigs* by James Marshall
- *The Three Little Pigs* by Rodney Peppé
- *The Ugly Duckling* by Hans Christian Andersen

Stories in Rhyme

- *All the Colors of the Earth* by Sheila Hamanaka
- *Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain* by Verna Aardema
- *Miss Spider's Tea Party* by David Kirk

Islands

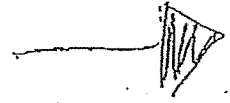
- *Benjamin and Hilp* by Rosemary Wells
- *We Are Best Friends* by Alki
- *Who Will Be My Friends?* by Sybil Hoff

Fabulous Science Books

- *Cars and How they Go* by Joanna Cole
- *EyeWitness Juniors Amazing Frogs and Toads* by Barry Clarke
- *Magic School Bus On the Ocean Floor* by Joanna Cole

Enjoy!

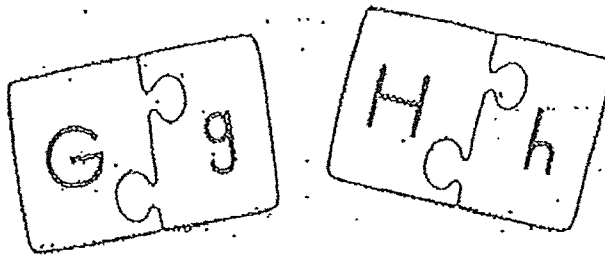
Draw lines to match the uppercase letters to the lowercase letters.



A a B b

A B C D E F

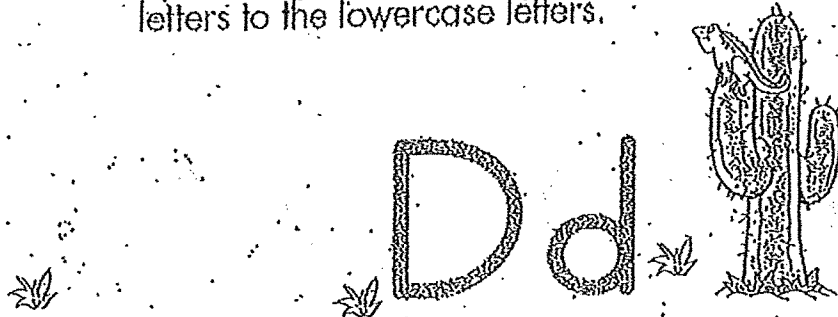
d a c b f e



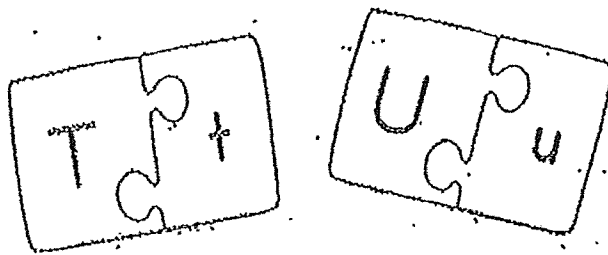
G H I J K L

k i g j l h

Draw lines to match the uppercase letters to the lowercase letters.



M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
o	r	n	p	s	m	q



T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
v	x	t	z	y	w	u

The building of fine motor skills in children will enable them to perform a variety of important functional tasks. These include:

- tying shoes
- zipping and unzipping
- buckling and unbuckling
- writing legibly and without significant muscle fatigue
- playing games that require precise hand and finger control
- drawing, painting, and coloring
- manipulating buttons and snaps
- putting small objects together
- doing puzzles
- making crafts
- using scissors
- manipulating small objects such as coins
- opening and closing objects
- picking up and holding onto small objects
- developing and maintaining an effective and proper pencil grip
- pinching objects between fingers
- using locks and keys
- being able to isolate finger movements (i.e., using one finger at a time, such as in playing the piano or typing)
- turning things over or turning pages of a book
- holding and using utensils properly and effectively
- screwing and unscrewing
- doing ANYTHING that requires small precise hand and finger movements

Activities To Improve Fine Motor Skills

The best way to do this with children is... Toys and Games, of course! Below, you will find some great games and toys that are both fun, challenging, and great for developing those critical fine motor skills.

Use playdoh, silly putty, Theraputty, kids scissors, beads, crafts, markers, crayons, learn to dress dolls, puzzles, paints and paintbrushes, finger paints, pencil grips (help you hold your pencil correctly), mazes, coloring books, "quiet books", pegboards, or ANYTHING you can possibly think of, to get those hands and fingers workin'!

1. Cotton Ball Race: Give the children clothespins and cotton balls. Set a "sand" timer (the type included with games like Boggle). Children try to move as many cotton balls as they can to a box by grasping them with their clothespin. Whoever has the most cotton balls in their box when the timer runs out wins the round.

2. Give kids SMALL pieces of colored chalk and have them draw or write on an upright chalkboard. The chalk on the board offers some "drag", which is good for motor memory. Also, having a small piece of chalk forces the child to use the tripod grasp. I've also had kids use small pieces of colored chalk on black construction paper.

3. Twist...twist...twist using a pincer grasp. You could use pipe cleaners, small twist ties, or (most engaging) candy wrappers with twisted ends!

SUMMER LEARNING FUN!!

- Small magnetic letters can be purchased at many dollar stores or teacher stores. They can be used to reinforce many of the skills we will learn in Kindergarten. Magnetic cookie sheets make a great playing surface!
- Name Game: Make the names of people in your family. Mix up the letters and make them again. It can be a contest to see who can make the names more quickly.
- Put the letters into alphabetical order.
- Rhyming pairs: one person makes a word from magnetic letters, the partner makes a rhyming word.
- Describing words: Use the magnetic letters to make describing words--color words, or words like thin, cold, big, etc.
- Make action words- then do the action! Jump, hop, clap, etc.
- Add endings: Make an action word and then add as many different endings as you can think of. Ex: plant, plants, planted
- Change vowels, make a simple 3 letter word. Ask partner to change the vowel to make a new word (cat-cot, cut)
- Make a word. Count the syllables. Partner makes another word with the same number of syllables.
- Make a word that begins with a consonant (all except a, e, i, o, u) partner makes another word that begins with the same consonant.
- Categories: Choose a category and take turns making as many words as you can that fit the category. For example: colors, food, etc.
- Building words- take a pile of letters and make as many words as you can.
- Make and mix: Make the days of the week then mix up one day at a time and remake it. Do the same thing for the months!
- Letter game: Each player starts with 6 letters. The players make words with their letters. They take turns taking one new letter at a time from a bucket of letters (without peeking!). The first player to use up all his letters wins.

0 Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Family Fun Activities

1. Sound Search

As you go about your daily activities with the child, play an alphabet sound-search game. Tell the child you are looking for something that begins with a specific sound and let the child guess until your selected item is identified. For example, as you stand in line at the grocery store, tell the child you see something that begins with the "L" sound. Let the child guess until the lettuce in your basket is correctly guessed. Take turns and let the child ask you to find a specific object.

2. Alphabet Flash Cards

Use inexpensive index cards to create alphabet flash cards. Print an uppercase alphabet letter on one side of the card and the corresponding lowercase letter on the back. If your child wants to print the cards, encourage him or her to do so. Hold up a completed card and ask the child to name the letter and say the sound associated with it. Expect the child to learn one or two letters each time you play. Let the child practice sequencing the alphabet letters by placing them in ABC order. Practice with the uppercase letter side of the cards until they are familiar to the child, and then turn the cards over and review the lowercase letters.

3. Make an Alphabet Book

Staple together 26 pages of blank paper. Encourage the child to write an upper- and lowercase letter pair on each page. Ask the child to name each letter and tell you the sound associated with it. Help the child search through magazines and cut out pictures of objects that begin with each letter sound. Do not expect the child to complete the alphabet pages in order or in one sitting. Instead, consider this a long-term project and add a letter page each time the child becomes familiar with the sound and printing of the letter. To review the letter sounds, ask the child to "read" the book to you often.

4. Make Letters

Using play dough, ask the child to create letters of the alphabet and name the sound associated with each letter. Begin with uppercase letters and advance to lowercase letters when the child is ready.

5. Letter Day

Plan a "letter day." Choose a letter. Write it on a card and give it to the child. During the day, ask the child to look for, and name, things that begin with that letter sound.

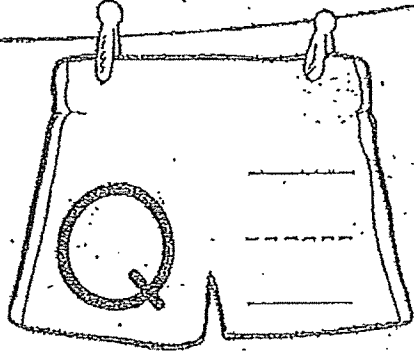
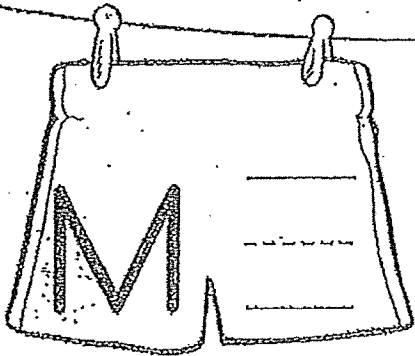
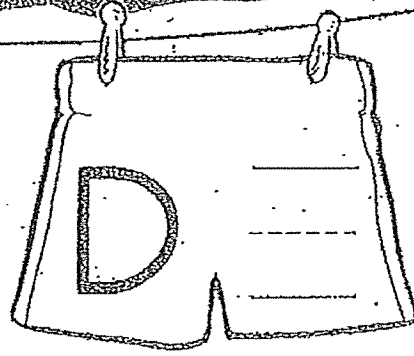
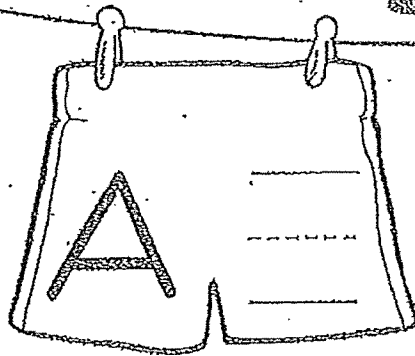
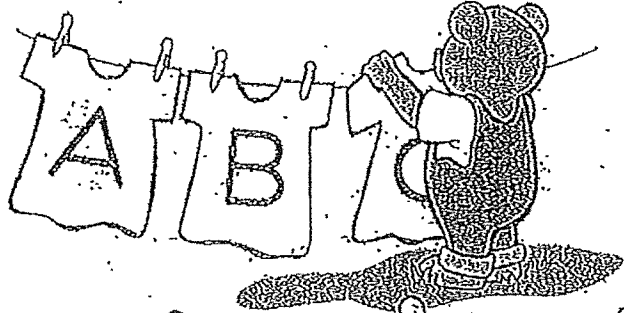


6. Reward Stickers

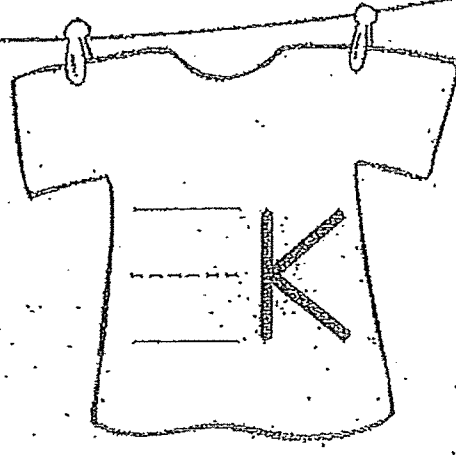
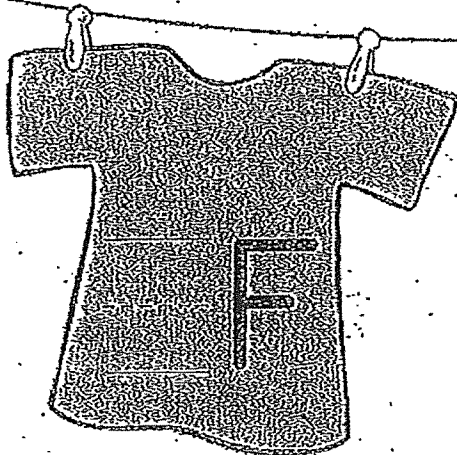
Use reward stickers to celebrate a job well done. You or the child can choose when to place a sticker on a specific page. Use a sticker as a reward when the child completes a page that requires extra care or is a little more difficult. The child can choose to place stickers on pages he or she is proud of completing.

0 Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Write the letter that comes **after**.



Write the letter that comes **before**.



Rhyming Cards

Cut out the cards and play different games to help with rhyming practice. You can play "Go Fish!", memory, "I Spy", or have your child collect all the rhyming pairs. Play a timed game and see how many they collect!

