
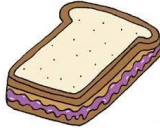






# Preschool Choice Board: Week of May 11

Pick 1-2 boxes to do each day. Put a happy face in the box or color the box when completed.  
Remember to read everyday.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Literacy Skill</b> <b>Alphabet Letter Hunt</b></p> <p>Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Letters (cut out letters from handouts or make with paper and marker)</li><li>• Container or Bowl (to collect letters)</li><li>• Music (radio, phone, etc.)</li></ul> <p>Directions for Activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Letter Hunt to Music -Place letters around a room, turn on the music and collect all of the letters before the song ends! Then, help them name all the letters.</li><li>2. Put the letters in ABC order.</li><li>3. Match the uppercase and lowercase letters.</li><li>4. Build their name and write on a paper (may need to make additional letters)</li></ol> <p>Extension Activity: Search for all the letters in the alphabet around your house.</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Fine Motor Skill</b> <b>Making a Sandwich</b></p> <p>Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bread</li><li>• Ingredients that are easy to cut through (peanut butter, jelly, butter)</li><li>• Butter Knife</li><li>• Cookie Cutters</li></ul> <p>Directions for Activity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Explain to your child that they will be making their own sandwich.</li><li>2. Show them the ingredients options and have your child choose what they would like.</li><li>3. Let them spread the ingredients on the bread.</li></ol> <p>*Assist as needed but encourage independence.</p> <p>Next, encourage your child to use a cookie cutter to cut the sandwich into a shape. If you do not have a cookie cutter, your child could use a knife to cut rectangles or triangles.</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Art Experience</b> <b>Tulip Fork Painting</b></p> <p>Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regular Paint or Mud Paint (a mix of dirt and water to make mud, then mix in food coloring)</li><li>• Plastic or Metal Fork</li><li>• Paper</li></ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bottle Stamping</b></p> <p>Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Paint</li><li>• Water</li><li>• Bottles, Pop or Juice Bottles</li><li>• Paper</li></ul>  
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Outdoor Experience</b> <b>Picnic Party</b></p> <p>Have your child bring stuffed animals or dolls on a picnic. Make a basket with a blanket, napkins, pretend food or real food, and plastic plates and tea cups. Your child (and the stuffed animals!) can get “dressed up” for the picnic.</p> <p>Your child can help clean up after a wonderful picnic.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Math Skill</b> <b>Outdoor Counting Walk</b></p> <p>Go outside and try to find 10 different things on a family walk.</p> <p>Extension Activity: Play “I Spy”</p> <p>Through “I spy,” children begin to build an understanding of what objects occur in nature and what objects are man-made. As one of your clues, share whether it is a natural object or a man-made one.</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gross Motor Skill</b> <b>Follow The Line</b></p> <p>Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sidewalk Chalk or Tape</li></ul> <p>Go outside and draw or use tape to make different types of lines on the sidewalk or driveway - zig-zag, curvy, straight or swirls.</p> 

**Text And Learn for Kindergarten (www.texttlearn.com) Text TALK to 77453**  
to receive **FREE** easy suggestions for how parents of young children can  
“make any time learning time” with daily interactions

## Additional Online Family Resource Links:

**Healthy at Home: A Toolkit for Supporting Families Impacted by COVID-19:** [healthyathome.readyrosie.com/en/](https://healthyathome.readyrosie.com/en/)

**HighScope at Home:** [highscope.org/active-learning-at-home/](https://highscope.org/active-learning-at-home/)

<b>READING</b>	<p><b>Scholastic Learn at Home: Prek-K:</b>  <a href="https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-prek-k.html">classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-prek-k.html</a></p> <p><b>Storyline Online:</b> <a href="http://www.storylineonline.net">www.storylineonline.net</a></p> <p><b>Unite for Literacy:</b> <a href="http://www.uniteforliteracy.com">www.uniteforliteracy.com</a></p> <p><b>KidLit TV:</b> <a href="http://kidlit.tv/?s=read+out+loud">kidlit.tv/?s=read+out+loud</a></p>
<b>LITERACY &amp; MATH</b>	<p><b>Starfall:</b> <a href="https://www.starfall.com/h/index-kindergarten.php">https://www.starfall.com/h/index-kindergarten.php</a></p> <p><b>ABCya:</b> <a href="http://www.abcya.com/grades/prek">www.abcya.com/grades/prek</a></p>
<b>SCIENCE</b>	<p><b>Kids National Geographic:</b> <a href="http://kids.nationalgeographic.com">kids.nationalgeographic.com</a></p> <p><b>Mystery Science:</b> <a href="http://mysteryscience.com/school-closure-planning">mysteryscience.com/school-closure-planning</a></p>
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>	<p><b>Virtual Field Trips:</b>  <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SvIdgTx9djKO6SjyvPDsoGlkgE3iExmi3qh2KRRku_w/mobilebasic?urp=gmail_link">docs.google.com/document/d/1SvIdgTx9djKO6SjyvPDsoGlkgE3iExmi3qh2KRRku_w/mobilebasic?urp=gmail_link</a></p>
<b>HEALTH &amp; NUTRITION</b>	<p><b>Nomster Chef:</b> <a href="http://www.nomsterchef.com/nomster-recipe-library">www.nomsterchef.com/nomster-recipe-library</a>            Children cooking with their grown-ups encourages culinary skills, literacy, math, and science skills.</p> <p><b>Exercise with Regie Rainbow:</b>  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3d5TFt7JoIY&amp;feature=youtu.be">www.youtube.com/watch?v=3d5TFt7JoIY&amp;feature=youtu.be</a></p>
<b>MUSIC</b>	<p><b>Music Class with Mrs. Mellinger:</b>  <a href="https://youtu.be/wG3t014Ed64">https://youtu.be/wG3t014Ed64</a></p>



Your child is special and truly one of a kind. Keep this in mind as you watch your child's growth from day to day. As your child grows, some changes may come quickly and others more slowly. During these early years, you may have concerns or would like additional resources about your child's growth, development, health or behavior. If you do have concerns or questions, make sure to talk with someone, such as a doctor, your teacher or you may contact me at any time at 734-439-5159 or through email at [mellingerl@milanareaschools.org](mailto:mellingerl@milanareaschools.org).

Respectfully,  
 Lisa Mellinger, Early Childhood Director  
 Paddock's Early Childhood Center



## How to Read With Your Child

- 1. Read slowly and naturally.** Pronounce the words carefully.
- 2. Read with interest.** Make your voice expressive. If you are interested, your child will be, too.
- 3. Use different voices.** Give different voices or other qualities to the different characters in the story. Let your child come up with different voices.
- 4. Follow the words with your finger.** This shows your child that spoken words can be represented as written words. Your child will learn to associate the sounds of speech with specific letters and letter combinations.
- 5. Pause in your reading and encourage your child to talk about the pictures, story, and characters.** Answer your child's questions. Ask your child to predict what will happen or to imagine different events or endings for the book.
- 6. Follow up on what you've just read.** Give your child drawing materials to illustrate events or characters of the book. Encourage your child to act out parts of the book or do things the way a character might. Visit the kinds of places and do the kinds of things that appear in the book. Make up stories and play games that build on the book's ideas.

# Strategies to Support Your Child's Social and Emotional Development

1. **Read with your child every day** so your child will . . .
  - learn to understand herself and others
  - think of reading as a pleasant activity
  - become a life-long learner
    - Read at a special time every day and provide a variety of books. Store books in places where she can reach them. She will be able to choose books for you to read and books to look at on her own.
2. **Help your child recognize and learn acceptable ways to express a range of feelings** so he will...
  - learn it's okay to have positive and negative feelings
  - recognize and understand other people's feelings
  - gain self-control
    - Talk about your own positive and negative feelings. Teach your child the words used to name feelings. Children need to recognize their feelings before they can learn to express them in appropriate ways.
    - Listen when your child shares his feelings and help your child learn how to relax and calm himself.
3. **Teach your child about your family and culture** so she will....
  - learn what values are important to your family
  - build a sense of self
  - begin to understand and appreciate other cultures
    - Help your child feel like a valued and important member of the family. When children feel like they belong, they can build a sense of self --which is the foundation for self-esteem.
    - Teach your family values as they come up in daily life. She may not understand exactly what you mean, but she will learn what you think is important.
    - Do things with other families. Your child will get to know and value all kinds of people--those like her and those with different values and practices.
4. **Enjoy your child's company** so he will....
  - learn to feel good about himself
  - learn to express love, affection and the joy of life
  - see you as role model
    - Give your child real jobs as you work together and ask for your child's help on projects. He will feel good about himself when he sees how many things he can do and because you needed his help.
5. **Use positive strategies to guide your child's behavior** so she will...
  - learn what is and is not appropriate behavior
  - develop self-discipline
    - Offer acceptable alternatives, prevent potential problems, explain what to do--rather than what not to do, and teach problem solving skills.
6. **Accept your child as a unique person** so he will...
  - grow and develop at his own rate without being compared to others
  - explore his special interests and talents
  - appreciate himself and others
    - Use effective praise, give just enough help to let your child progress at his own pace, support special interests and talents and let your child take the lead during frequent conversations.
7. **Encourage your child to be both independent and cooperative** so she will...
  - balance her own needs with those of others
  - set goals and work towards them
  - play, learn and live with others
    - Set up your home so things your child needs are within reach, model cooperation with other family members, help your child set and achieve goals, and take turns during activities with your child.



# Packing My Own Picnic

*You're spreading it well.*

Invite your child to pack a special picnic lunch and decide what to include.

Packing a picnic allows your child to act independently and learn from his choices.



## Why this is important

Your child probably likes to complete tasks on his own. In this activity he can work independently and his mistakes will have minimal consequences. An important thing for him to learn about independence is that sometimes things do not go as planned. Handling the problems of a poorly packed lunch is a gentle introduction to the risks of problems with later responsibilities, such as getting school supplies together in a backpack.

## What you do

- Invite your child to join you on a picnic. Suggest that he first pack a lunch to take with him.
- Go with him to the kitchen and point out available items for packing.
- Talk about where he will be eating, such as in the backyard or at the park, and what foods might be convenient to eat there.
- Lay out the food items as you talk, along with several sandwich bags for him to use. Help him remember where to find his lunchbox or a paper bag.
- Stay in the kitchen while he works, but help only if asked. *I'll be here in the kitchen for a few minutes. Let me know if you need some help.*
- Remember that this is an exercise in independence but you can control his diet by limiting his food choices to healthy items only.

## Another idea

When you repeat this game, it might help your child if you remind him of the outcome of the previous picnic: *Last time the pudding leaked out, remember?* He still may make a few poor choices, but you can remind him of what he learned from his prior experiences.

## Let's read together!

*Hungry Harry*  
by Joanne Partis

# Serious Questions

Why did our  
turtle die?

Give simple but thoughtful answers to your child's *how* and *why* questions.

From your honest answers to serious questions, your child will begin to build his own viewpoint and values.



## Why this is important

Answering your child's serious questions with brief, honest replies helps your child build knowledge and learn your values. Asking questions is a way for your child to get information on facts and attitudes. Children build their value system on the answers others give them, how those answers are given, and their own experiences.

## What you do

- Give your child serious answers to questions as they naturally come up during your day together.
- Keep your answers brief and sincere. A detailed, scientific explanation is often not needed.
- Remember that your child will ask for more information if interested. Even questions about topics such as sex, death, or divorce can be answered very simply.
- Assume that when your child asks a question such as *Why did our turtle die?* he is also asking the implied question, *What do you feel about pets and death?*
- Consider this activity as a way to pass on your important values and attitudes.
- Share answers with your child as often as necessary to make him feel at ease with the subject.

## Another idea

You may notice your child's anxiety about a topic before he has asked a question. Feel free to approach him and welcome any questions he has. Remind him that you are always available to talk with him openly about serious subjects.

### Let's read together!

*Two Homes*  
by Claire Masurel



# Letters in My Name

*Yes, and you traced it with your finger.*

Teach your child the letters in his name by first saying them, then pointing them out in print, and finally tracing the shape of each letter with him.

Your child will eventually remember the letters and begin to understand that letters make words.

J.





## Why this is important

The letters of your child's name provide a good beginning for learning letters. Your child will become aware of letters as symbols and recognize the sound and sight of the letters in his name. Learning to recognize the letters of his written name is part of early literacy.

## What you do

- Make a point of saying and spelling your child's name together by saying: *Joey, J-O-E-Y. Can you come here, please?* He will begin to associate the letters with his name.
- Try getting his attention using only the letters once he becomes familiar with them. The next step will be helping him learn to recognize the letters.
- Point out one letter at a time until he can recognize all the letters of his name. Cereal boxes, magazines, signboards, toys, and labels provide good sources of big, colorful letters.
- Trace the letter with your finger when you see it and encourage your child to do the same.
- Use his knowledge of circles and lines when you're acquainting him with the letter: *An O is a circle. An E is four straight lines. A J is curved at the bottom.*
- Encourage him to remember any associations he makes, such as a *J* resembles a candy cane.

## Another idea

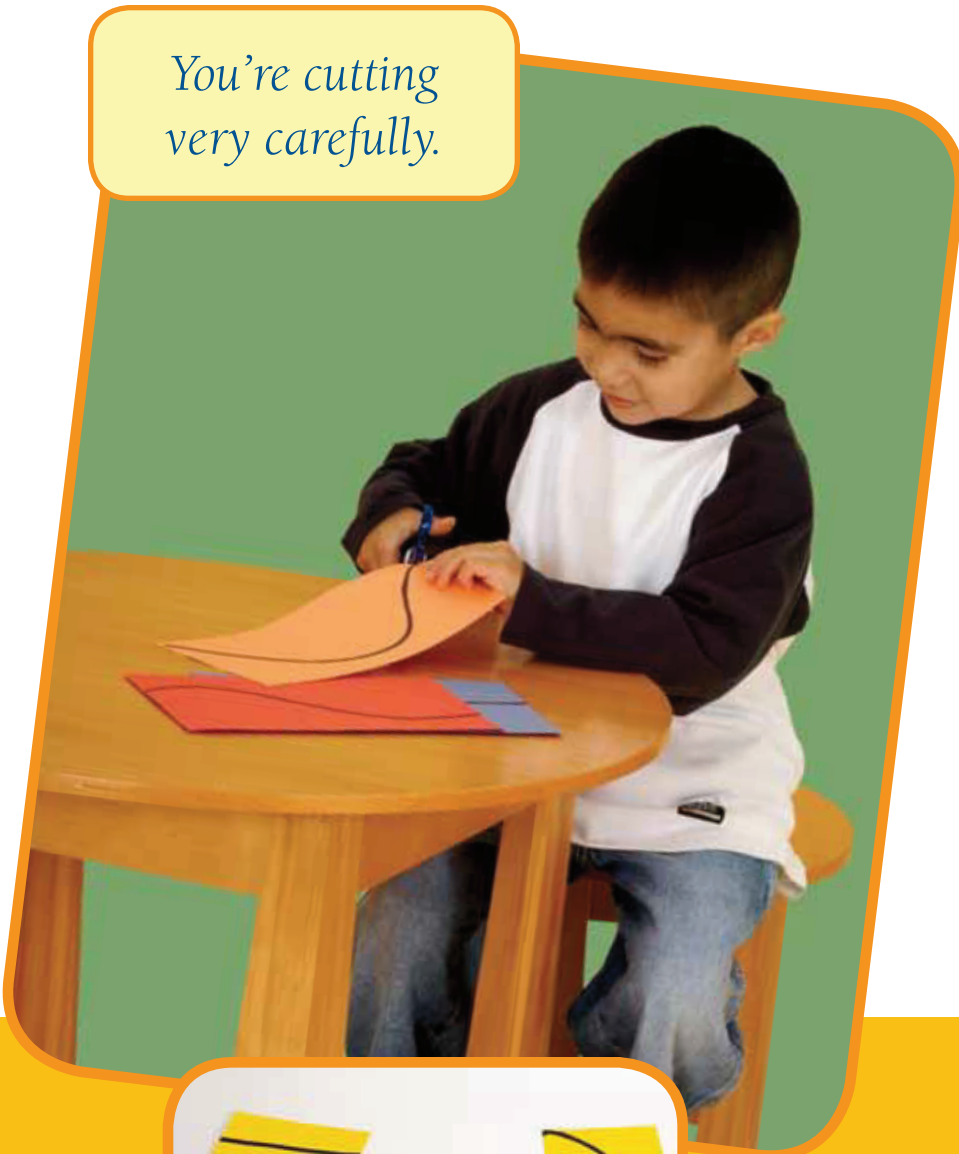
Use consistent language when he learns to write his letters. The same descriptions will help him remember the shape of each letter in his name. If his interest continues, help him recognize additional letters beyond those in his name.

### Let's read together!

*Matthew A.B.C.*  
by Peter Catalanotto

# Cut New Lines

*You're cutting very carefully.*



Draw several types of lines on paper for your child to cut.

His hand and finger skills will increase as he practices using scissors, and your child will feel good about his growing abilities.





## Why this is important

Your child can improve his scissor skills in a safe and acceptable way. An available supply of attractive practice sheets can keep him motivated and working to control his cutting. Careful and precise use of the muscles in his hands will be required in many school, work, and life activities.

## What you do

- Prepare a series of sheets of paper with lines that help him develop direction in his cutting.
- Make thick lines on thick paper such as construction paper or cut up grocery bags.
- Start with thick, straight lines on the paper. Eventually, make thin straight lines, and then try wavy lines.
- Demonstrate for your child how to cut along the thick, straight line.
- Invite him to practice cutting on whichever lines he feels most comfortable.
- Talk about the shapes he creates and use words such as *straight*, *curve*, and *corner*.
- Show him how the cut pieces can fit together again: *It fits back together. You made a puzzle!*
- Offer lots of encouragement as he practices.

## Ready to move on?

You can continue to challenge him by adding zigzag lines, wavy lines, circles, and more.

### Let's read together!

*Look! Look! Look!*  
by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace

# Alphabet Letters

## Lowercase and Uppercase

a

b

c

d

e

f

g

h

i

j

k

l

m

n

o

p

q

r

s

t

u

v

w

x

y

z





A

B

C

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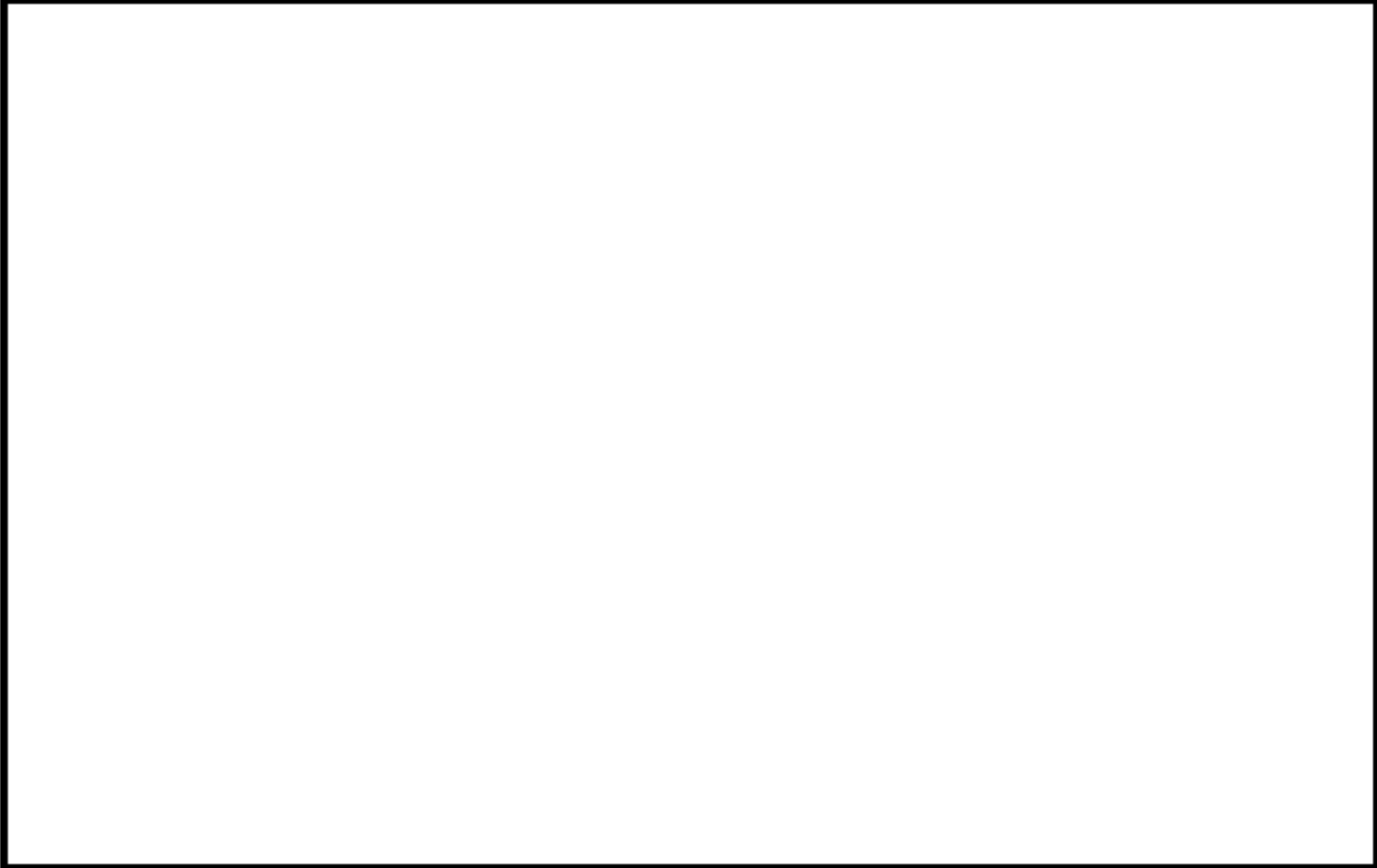
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