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Summer ACTIVITY GUIDE COUNTDOWN to KINDERGARTEN



Summer Activity Guide

WHAT AN EXCITING TIME!

Your child is on the way to kindergarten. Many parents find it hard to believe that their children have reached this milestone. Our children grow up right before our eyes, and the time we spend with them is precious.

The activities in this guide are designed for you and your child to do together this summer. They can help turn the special time you share into delightful educational experiences. Research clearly shows the importance of parents' involvement in their children's learning. Our children need to know that we think school and learning are important, and one of the best ways to show this is to enjoy learning things together.



For more information and activities to get ready for kindergarten visit:
www.mnps.org/countdowntokindergarten

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These boxes found throughout this guide contain book titles you can find at your local library. The stories relate to each section's topic.

Reading & Writing **Tips for Parents**

READING WITH YOUR CHILD

Find a comfortable spot to read to your child every day. This can be in your lap, cuddled in bed, or side by side at a table or on the sofa.

Look at the front of the book. Read the title. Ask your child what the book might be about.

Read the book together. Encourage your child to talk about the story and identify the pictures.

Read the story many times if your child is enjoying it. As you re-read it, try to:

- Pause occasionally for your child to fill in the next word or to tell you what happens next.
- Have your child retell the story to you as you turn the pages together.
- Encourage your child to use picture clues to remember the story.

ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO WRITE

Provide your child with crayons or markers and plenty of paper.

Save junk mail. Your child can pretend to fill out forms or reply cards and can use the envelopes to mail his own letters or cards.

Make simple word cards for your child to copy — include family names and phrases like “I love you” and “Thank you.”

Give your child many opportunities to write: leave messages for each other; write a thank you note or birthday card; make a grocery list. Remember that your child is just learning how to write, so don't worry if the letters aren't perfect or if the spelling isn't correct. That will all come later.

Reading A Book **With Your Child**

MAKE LEARNING FUN!

- As you read a book with your child, look at the pictures, and ask them to identify and describe objects. Ask your child, "What do you think will happen next?" Have your child draw a picture to tell their story.
- Count the number of objects that are in a book.
- Point out any differences and similarities you see in the story. Ask your child about other differences and similarities they see around them.
- If there are rhyming words, point those out to your child. Then together, think of other rhyming words.
- After you read the book, ask your child what was their favorite part. Write down a sentence of what your child describes, and have your child use that sentence as a guide to write their own sentence.
- Think of a child's song that you can sing along with the book. For example, if the book is about school, a city or transportation you could sing "The Wheels on the Bus."



We want to encourage families to visit their local library to promote literacy and use their resources. Please visit your local library and apply for a free library card.

THE WHEELS ON THE BUS

The wheels on the bus
Go round and round,
Round and round,
Round and round
The wheels on the bus
Go round and round,
All through the town.

The wipers on the bus
Go swish, swish, swish
Swish, swish, swish
Swish, swish, swish
The wipers on the bus
Go swish, swish, swish
All through the town.

The dog on the bus
Goes Arf! Arf! Arf!
Arf! Arf! Arf!
Arf! Arf! Arf!
The dog on the bus
Goes Arf! Arf! Arf!
All through the town.

Repeat using:

Horn: Beep, beep, beep

Lights: Blink, blink, blink

People: Up and down, up and down, up and down

Babies: Waah, waah, waah!

Moms (or Dads): Shhh, shhh, shhh!



To Market, To Market

Grocery shopping offers a perfect opportunity for your child to see how useful reading and math can be. Watch your child “read” the labels on their favorite foods and see the pride in their smile!

- Save labels from foods you eat often. Take labels to the grocery store, find those items, and put them in the cart.
- Find a flyer, magazine or coupons. Have your child circle all the pictures that are in the shape of a circle and draw squares around the pictures that are in the shape of a square. Continue this activity with other shapes.
- Discuss each food as you put it in the cart – what shape and color is it? Talk about your favorite foods. Play pretend games about what your children would serve at a dinner or tea party. Let it be silly – hot dogs with ranch dressing and chocolate syrup.
- Let your child pick out one new vegetable or fruit that he would like to try.
- Find the sales page or flyer from your local supermarket. Read them with your child. Let your child circle the items you plan to buy.
- Cut out coupons and help your child match the coupon to the food items. Afterwards, give it to the cashier.



Read “Tops and Bottoms” by Janet Stevens

Let's Go Out and Play

There is so much to explore outside! Just taking a walk offers many learning opportunities. Take advantage of your child's natural curiosity about the world around us. Most kids love playing with rocks and sticks, water and mud. Provide some old clothes, and encourage your child to practice some "backyard writing."

- Use water and an old paintbrush. Encourage your child to "write" letters on the sidewalk, porch or the side of your home. Be sure to tell your child to ONLY do this with water.
- Look for a "chalk rock." This is a rock that will make marks on the sidewalk or driveway. Let your child use his rock to write messages or draw pictures.
- Make mud paint! Mix water with dirt until you have a paint-like consistency. Give your child an old paintbrush or have your child use their finger to draw pictures or write letters on the sidewalk or driveway. Give your child some water to rinse it away when they finish.
- Use broken twigs to form letters and words.
- Go outside and draw a picture of the sky using your blue crayon. What are some other things that are blue?
- Watering plants or flowers can teach your child about nature, as well as help your child become more responsible and practice their numbers. For example, ask your child to give 8 cups of water to each plant, or when using the water hose, water each plant as long as it takes for you and your child to count to 10 or 12.



Read "Quick as a Cricket" by Audrey Wood

- Children love to collect nature items. Give your child a picture and a list of items to find in the yard or at the park. Example:

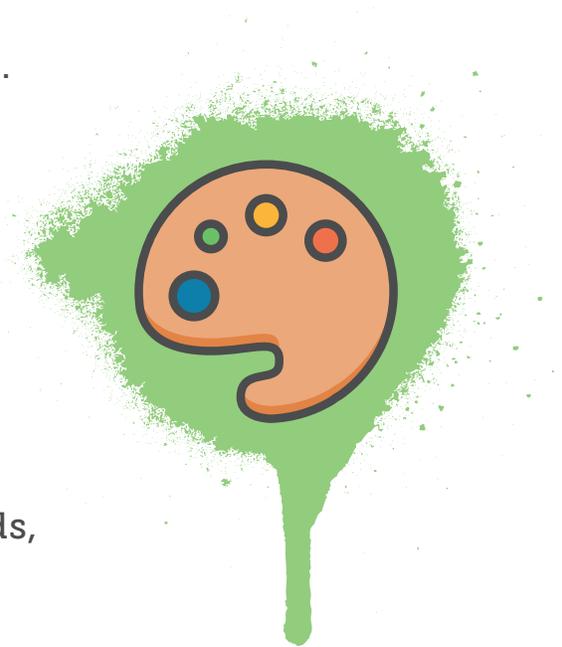


- When visiting the park or playground, your child can count how long it takes to complete certain activities. For example, "Count and see how long it takes to slide down the sliding board, to climb up the ladder, or to crawl through the tunnel."
- Children love to mix up sand, water, rocks and leaves and pretend that it's food. Give your child old containers that can be used outdoors: plastic milk jugs, butter tubs, buckets, etc. They can mix up interesting recipes and practice counting skills. Make a cake. Add 5 spoonfuls of dirt, 1 cup of water and 8 rocks. Decorate the cake with 10 broken sticks as candles.
- Plant a potato! Cut a piece of potato with an "eye" and put it in a small bowl. Help your child partially cover the potato with water. Watch it each day and soon you will see roots growing. When several roots have grown, put the potato in a cup with soil. Plant it outside when it gets too big for the cup. You can write about it in your summer journal in the back of this booklet.
- Take a listening walk. Pause and listen for sounds. What are they? A truck? A bird? A lawnmower? Try to imitate them. Talk about what you see on your walk. Make a list with words and simple pictures. The next time you go for a walk, take the list. Try to find the same things.

Art Projects Galore

Children love to see their own creations take shape. Here are lots of ideas to encourage your child's creativity. Remember, adults should be present for the following art activities:

- Cut old sponges into shapes. Dip them in paint and press them onto paper for a fun shape picture!
- Make an "All About Me" poster. Help your child think of different ways to describe themselves. What do they like to do? What foods do they like to eat? What is their favorite color? Glue magazine pictures or photographs on a poster. Draw pictures or attach some items like a ticket from a favorite movie. Share the poster with friends and family.
- Make a tambourine to shake to music. Decorate the bottom of two paper plates with crayons. Fill one plate with rice, macaroni or large beans. Put the other plate upside down on top of the first plate and tape around the edges.
- Make a xylophone by putting different amounts of water in empty glass jars. Use jars that are the same size. Your child can tap the sides of each jar with a wooden spoon, hear the different musical sounds, and compose a silly song.



Fun Ways To Paint

CRAYON PAINTING

Make a design on paper with crayons and then “wash” paint over it.

INK BLOT PAINTING

Paper is folded in half and reopened. A few drops of paint are placed on one side of the paper. The paper is refolded and pressed firmly. This creates a symmetrical design. Newsprint works best.

MARBLE PAINTING

Cut paper to fit the bottom of a shoe box. Dip marbles in thick paint, put in the box and roll them around. Or put the paint directly on the paper first and then add the marbles. Ping pong balls work as well.

PAINTING ON DIFFERENT MATERIALS

A number of materials give experience in texture: cloth, sponges, paper towels, leather, egg cartons, aluminum foil, corrugated paper, mailing tubes, paper bags, muffin cups, wax paper, metal, rocks, etc.

BEADS

½ cup salt

¼ cup cornstarch

¼ cup water (heated)

food coloring (optional)

Dissolve salt in heated water, stir in cornstarch and food coloring. Knead until smooth. Pinch off small amounts, form into shapes, stick small dowels or pencils through them and place on waxed paper. When beads dry, slip off sticks and thread onto yarn.



Read “Harold & the Purple Crayon” by Crockett Johnson

SALT AND FLOUR FINGERPAINT

1 cup flour

1 ½ cups salt

¼ cup water

food coloring

Stir flour and salt into water. Paint will have grainy quality.

PUDDING FINGERPAINT

Instant or cooked pudding may be used for a different experience. When painting with food, explain to the children, "Today we are finger painting with pudding. Another day we will have it for snack." All paints should be stored in tightly covered jars in a cool place.

GLARCH (SLIMY GOOP)

1 cup Elmer's glue

1 cup liquid starch

Pour liquid starch over glue and gently fold together with a spoon. Once glue solidifies, pour off extra starch. Glarch becomes harder and more rubbery as it is worked. Once it is quite solid, rinse under cold water to remove starch.

BASIC FINGERPAINT (RECIPE 1)

1 cup flour

1 teaspoon salt

3 cups cold water

Mix flour, salt and cold water together in a double boiler. Cook until thick, beating with an eggbeater or electric mixer.

BASIC FINGERPAINT (RECIPE 2)

3 cups laundry detergent

water

Put soap in medium-sized bowl. Gradually add water. Beat with an electric beater to a soft, smooth consistency that holds a peak.

COOKED PLAYDOUGH

2 cups flour

1 cup salt

4 teaspoons cream of tartar

2 cups water

2 tablespoons oil

food coloring (optional)

Spice such as cinnamon or cloves for scent (optional)

Mix flour, salt and cream of tartar in heavy aluminum pan. Add and mix water, oil, color and spice. Heat on stove three minutes or until mixture pulls away from pan. Remove from heat and knead immediately. Store in airtight container. Clay keeps for several months.

On the Road Again



Riding in the car, in the bus or on the train can be a great time to look for letters and numbers all around us! Getting stuck in traffic can turn into the perfect opportunity to play learning and memory games. Encourage children to use their imagination!

- Take a clipboard with writing paper in the car. You can make one with a piece of heavy cardboard and two clothespins. Encourage your child to write or draw things he sees.
- Take magnetic letters and a cookie sheet with you in the car. Help your child spell words or signs that you see.
- Record a favorite story and play it as you ride along.
- Play "Read the Road." Have your child call out signs: Wal-Mart, etc.
- Pick a letter or number. See who can spot it first on a sign or license plate.
- Play a version of "I Spy" using rhyming words. Say, "I spy something that sounds like "bree" (tree) or "bar" (car)."
- Count objects of interest. For example, "How many traffic lights can you count before we get home? Police cars? Gas stations? Motorcycles? Stop signs? Red cars?"
- Look for all the numbers that you can find. Give your child a list of numbers 0-10. Have a contest to see who can find all the numbers first.



Read "On the Go" by Ann Norris

Fun With Language & Math

Learning to love learning is a wonderful gift to share with your child. Take advantage of these educational activities that promote early language and math skills.

- Give your child lots of practice writing their name by providing strips of masking tape and encouraging your child to make labels. Then invite your child to put their name on things that belong to him/her.
- Using interesting materials makes writing fun. Try spreading shaving cream on a plastic tray or tabletop. Ask your child to write his/her name or draw a picture.
- Cut out interesting magazine pictures. Have your child make up stories about them. Write down what she says about her picture. Ask questions like, "What is happening in your picture?"
- Copy the numbers that are printed on the calendar at the end of this book. This activity encourages number recognition as well as the use of the calendar.
- Try these fun math activities using a deck of cards:
 - ◆ Group cards into sets of 10
 - ◆ Sort cards by shape
 - ◆ Sort cards by number
 - ◆ Arrange cards in numerical order
 - ◆ Play "Go Fish"



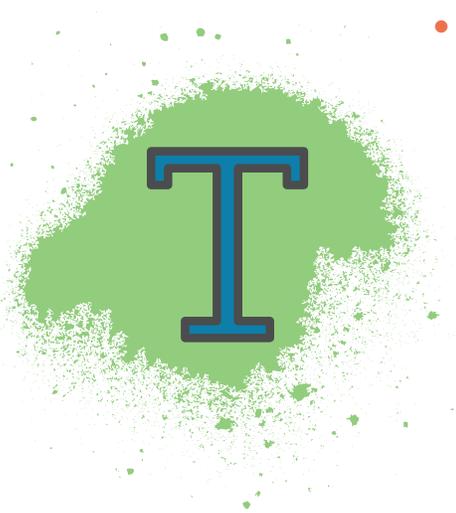
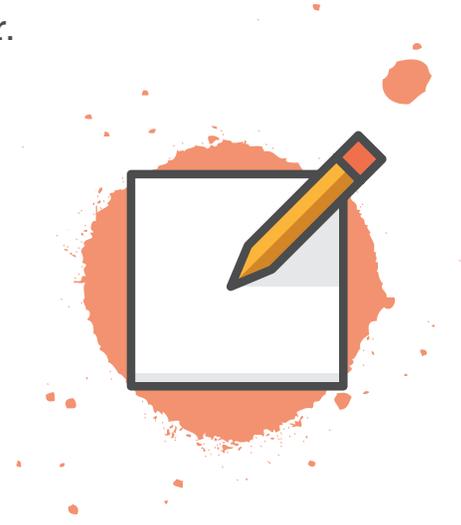
Read "Circles, Squares, Everywhere" by Max Grover

- Provide an assortment of household objects such as a bowl, a book, a can, a cup or a cereal box. Provide pencils and paper. Your child can trace one side of each object to get a shape.
- Save margarine container lids. Cut out a shape in the center of the lid. (Adults Only!) This creates a stencil. Your child can trace each shape on paper.
- Give your child a bag. Offer him/her the challenging task of finding as many objects like a circle to place in his/her container. Do the same for other shapes.
- Play "I Spy" to encourage shape recognition. For example, "I spy something that is a rectangle."
- Hide several items that are meaningful to your child (pennies, small cars, candy). Give specific directions using words such as over, under, next to, and on top of, to help find the hidden treasure. For example, "Go in the kitchen, open the cabinet door that is under the sink and look behind the sponge." Surprise! Take turns hiding objects or treasures from each other.
- Sit across the table from your child with two sheets of paper and crayons. Give directions for drawing pictures on the paper. You might say: "Draw a long red line. Draw three circles on top of the red line. Now, draw a box under the red line. Draw a man inside the box." Let your child take a turn giving you directions!
- When preparing meals, give specific instructions for finding food items using words such as inside, outside, in front of, behind, top and bottom. For example, "Look inside the refrigerator on the top shelf. Look behind the orange juice and find the milk."



Read "The Shape of Things" by Dayle Ann Dodds

- Make goop! You need: cornstarch, water and a plastic container. These ingredients make a fascinating mixture. Tell your child to add 10 spoonfuls of cornstarch into a container. Then add the same amount of water. Encourage him/her to count each spoonful as she/he adds it to the mixture. When your child mixes these two ingredients, she will enjoy experimenting and observing the "Goop."
- Make a book by folding paper in half. Draw pictures to tell a story. Help your child write words or write them for your child. Let him/her read to you at bedtime!
- Write a letter to a family member or friend as your child watches. Ask your child to dictate a sentence or two, and then have them sign their name to the letter along with yours.
- Write a letter to your child and mail it. Watch their excitement when they receive it in the mail.

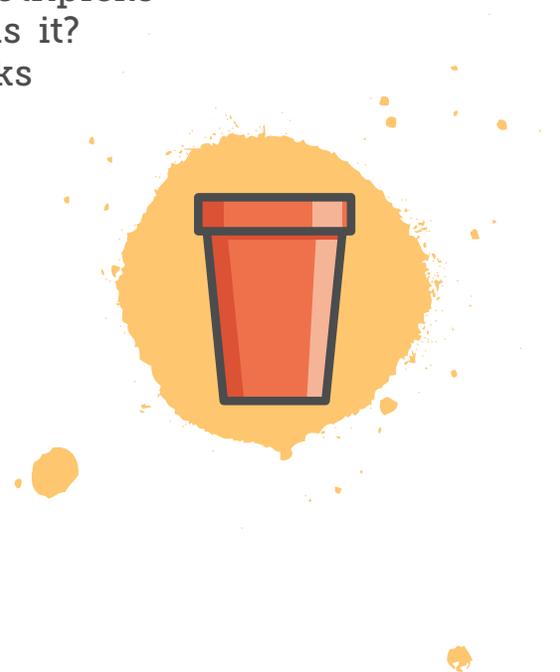


- Tell your child stories from your childhood and ask them to tell them back to you.
- Play games that require counting: Hide and Seek; Mother, May I; Red Light, Green Light; Hop Scotch.
- Put your magnetic letters in an empty plastic container. Shake them up and pull one out. How many letters can you name?



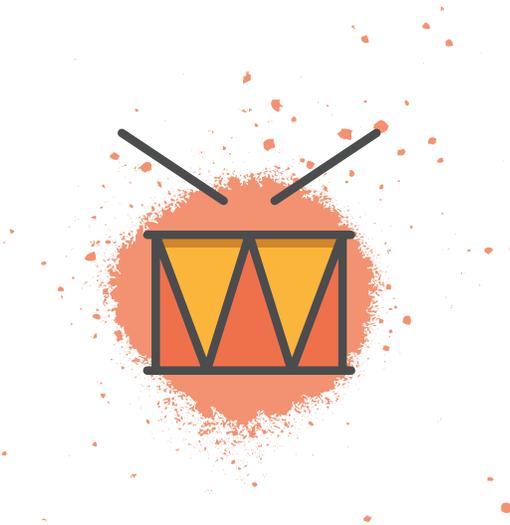
Read "The Jolly Postman" by Janet & Alan Ahlberg

- Help your child think of words that rhyme. Make up riddles. "I am thinking of something that rhymes with cook. It has words and pictures (book)." Make up sentences that rhyme: "Fred sat on the _____ (bed). Ann turned on the _____ (fan). Mandy likes to eat _____ (candy)."
- Make up nonsense words that rhyme with real ones, such as "wettuce" or "belephant." See if your child can guess the real word.
- Give your child three paper cups (each a different size) and a pile of peanuts in their shells. First, ask your child to "guess", or "estimate" the answer to the following questions: How many nuts can the smallest cup hold? How many nuts can the bigger cups hold? Which cup(s) hold more than 10 nuts? Fewer than five? Then let your child fill the cups to determine if their estimate was correct.
- Measure the windowsill by putting toothpicks end to end. How many toothpicks long is it? Measure the same space with pencils, blocks or string. Try measuring other things in this way.
- Help your child keep a summer journal. They can draw pictures and write about things that happen during his summer vacation. Remember to encourage them when they try to write words — don't worry about perfect handwriting or spelling!



Read "Mouse Numbers and Letters" by Jim Aronsky

Musical Magic



These activities teach your child language skills through singing, rhyming and learning new words. Children also learn about rhythm and patterns (important math skills) through music. And, while you and your child are dancing and moving around, you'll be working on large muscle development.

- Play some favorite music. Encourage your child to clap or dance to the beat. Sing a favorite song together. Use a big kitchen spoon for your microphone. Sing your song loudly.
- To help your child hear rhyming sounds, sing the nonsense song, "THE NAME GAME." Use everyone's name in the family.

THE NAME GAME

Mike, Mike, Mo-bike
Banana-fana, Fo-fike
Mi-My-Mo-Mike MIKE!

Lisa, Lisa, Bo-bisa
Banana-fana, Fo-fisa
Mi-My-Mo-Misa LISA!

- Sing the ABC song while you wash your hands. Don't stop till you get to Z. This takes between 20-25 seconds, the recommended time for getting rid of all those nasty germs.



Read "Crocodile Beat" by Gail Jorgensen

- Sing the ABC song going up the steps – one letter for each step. What letter did you stop on?
- Sing this song together, clapping on each letter as you spell BINGO’s name. Next try using your child’s name. Be sure to clap once for each letter of his/her name.

BINGO

There was a farmer who had a dog
 And BINGO was his name-oh.
 B-I-N-G-O!
 B-I-N-G-O!
 B-I-N-G-O!
 And BINGO was his name-oh!

There was a kid, a super kid
 And LESLIE was her name-oh
 L-E-S-L-I-E
 L-E-S-L-I-E
 L-E-S-L-I-E
 And LESLIE was her name-oh!



- Practice different sounds. Repeat “Alligator Pie” using different voices: deep, low voice; high, squeaky voice; fast voice; slow voice; opera voice; robot voice.

ALLIGATOR PIE

Alligator pie, alligator pie
 If I don’t get some, I think I’m gonna cry!
 Give away the green grass.
 Give away the sky.
 But don’t give away my alligator pie!!!



Read “The Happy Hedgehog Band” by Jill Barton

Jump to the beat of a favorite chant. Here are two popular chants that can also be done as clapping games:

MISS MARY MACK

Miss Mary Mack, Mack, Mack
All dressed in black, black, black
With silver buttons, buttons, buttons
All down her back, back, back

She asked her mother, mother, mother
For fifty cents, cents, cents
To see the elephant, elephant, elephant
Jump over the fence, fence, fence.

He jumped so high, high, high
He touched the sky, sky, sky
And he never came back, back, back
Til the fourth of Ju-ly, ly, ly

TEDDY BEAR

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the ground
Teddy bear, teddy bear, tie your shoe

Teddy bear, teddy bear, that will do
Teddy bear, teddy bear, go up the stair
Teddy bear, teddy bear, comb your hair

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn out the light
Teddy bear, teddy bear, say good night!

- Nursery rhymes are perfect for reading and reciting. Say them together, clapping to the beat. Act them out with motions. Make up new rhymes. Talk about the new and interesting words. A "tuffet" is a small, upholstered stool. Your child could pretend a small pillow was her tuffet. Try some "curds and whey" in the "Let's Eat" section.



LITTLE MISS MUFFET

Little Miss Muffet
Sat on a tuffet
Eating her curds and whey
Along came a spider
And sat down beside her
And frightened Miss Muffet away!

- Sing the familiar song, "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes." Pretend everything is moving in slow motion. Then speed it up. Point to parts of your body as you sing.

HEADS, SHOULDERS, KNEES & TOES

Head, shoulders, knees and toes
Knees and toes
Head, shoulders, knees and toes
Knees and toes

Eyes and ears and mouth and nose
Head, shoulders, knees and toes
Knees and toes



- Sing all the days of the week to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Thursday, Friday, Saturday

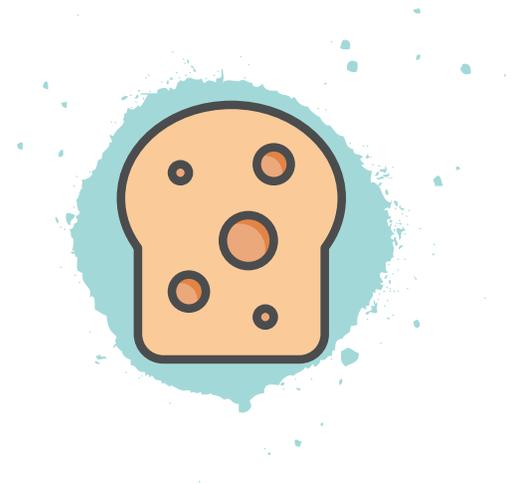
Let's Eat

Children typically love to help in the kitchen, especially when food is involved. Cooking is a great way to learn how to follow directions. When we measure and mix the ingredients, we're learning math and science skills, too. Adults should be present for the following activities:

- Place the correct amount of an ingredient needed in a small container, then let the child count the number of spoonfuls into a mixing bowl. For example, to make corn bread together, measure out all the corn meal needed in a small bowl. Using a spoon, encourage your child to add the corn meal to the mixture. Have him/her count each spoonful as he/she adds it to the mixture. The following activities are more examples:
 - ◆ Add 10 teaspoons of sugar to a pitcher of iced tea.
 - ◆ Count how many teaspoons are in a package of Jell-O.
 - ◆ Count how many scoops of cereal it takes to fill the cereal bowl.
 - ◆ Count how many pieces of pasta it takes to fill a small cup.
 - ◆ Stir a mixture as long as it takes to count to 10.
- Let your child practice listening skills by making a snack according to your verbal directions. Provide the ingredients for a simple snack. Give your child instructions such as, "Put the bread on a plate. Spread peanut butter on top of the bread. Place 10 raisins on top of the peanut butter."



- Serve snacks that are in the shape of a circle. Some examples include cucumbers, bananas and refrigerator cookies. Now try squares and triangles.
- Mix together snack items such as saltine crackers, tortilla chips, round crackers or vanilla wafers.
- Roll out refrigerator or homemade dough. Your child can form the dough into shapes or letters with his hands. Encourage him/her to name each shape as he/she is working.
- Help your child put toast in the toaster. Count to see how long it takes before the toast pops up.
- Have your child count out the number of forks, spoons and napkins needed for the family.
- At each place setting, put one plate, one fork and one napkin.



Read “Lunch” by Denise Fleming

Cooking Up Some Fun

Cooking is an ideal way to learn because it involves all five senses. Math, language, science, nutrition, social, small motor and emotional skills are all part of the cooking experience, too!

ANTS ON A LOG

Ingredients: celery, peanut butter or cream cheese, raisins

Spread peanut butter, or cream cheese, in the hollow of the celery (log). Put the raisins (ants) on top.

APPLE DELIGHTS

Ingredients: red apples, peanut butter, miniature marshmallows

Slice the apple into eight pieces. Spread peanut butter on one slice, then place four marshmallows on top. Add another slice of apple, and you have a big smile.

FROZEN BANANAS

Ingredients: bananas, popsicle sticks

Peel the banana and cut it in half. Insert a popsicle stick and freeze.

CURDS AND WHEY

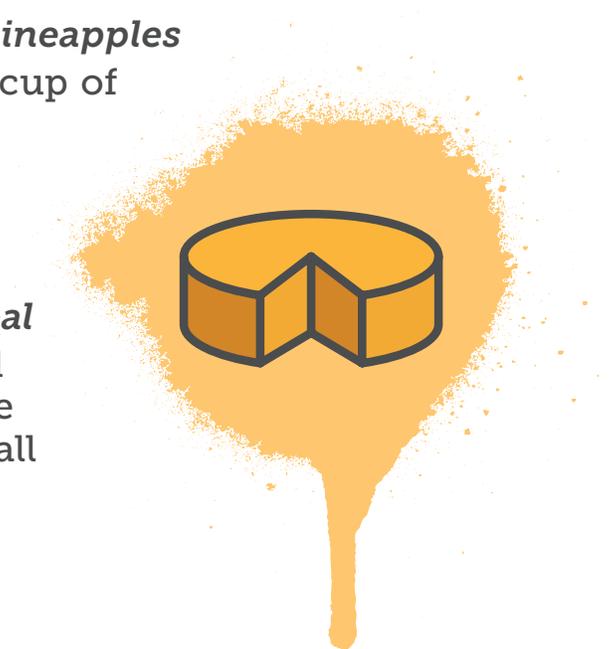
Ingredients: cottage cheese, crushed pineapples

Mix $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of cottage cheese with $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of crushed pineapple in a small bowl.

CHEESE BALLS

Ingredients: cream cheese, grated cheese, chopped nuts or crushed cereal

Put 1 tablespoon of cream cheese and 1 tablespoon of grated cheddar cheese in a cup and mix well. Form a small ball and roll in nuts or cereal.



BUNNY SALAD

Ingredients: pear halves, raisins, cottage cheese, carrot sticks

Put a pear half on a plate for the bunny's body. Add raisins for a nose and eyes, a cottage cheese tail, and carrot sticks for ears.

CINNAMON APPLE SAUCE

Ingredients: canned applesauce, cinnamon red-hot candies

Put ½ cup of applesauce in a small cup. Count out 10 cinnamon candies and put them in the cup. Stir, stir, stir. The applesauce will turn a pretty pink and have a cinnamon flavor.

LITTLE BEAR'S PORRIDGE

Ingredients: oatmeal, brown sugar, milk, raisins

Prepare the oatmeal according to directions. Top with brown sugar, milk and raisins.

CRACKER CREATIONS

Ingredients: different shaped crackers, peanut butter, and plastic knives or wooden sticks

Using peanut butter as glue, make houses, cars and sculptures you can eat.

TRAIL MIX

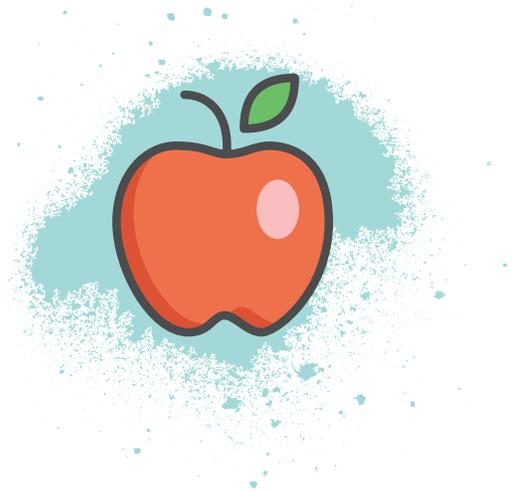
Ingredients: O-shaped cereal, pretzel sticks, peanuts, raisins, zippered plastic bag, ice cream cone

Pour into plastic bag and shake to combine

MUD PIES

Ingredients: 1 package instant chocolate pudding, 2 cups milk, flat bottom ice cream cones

Put the pudding (dirt) in a plastic container with a tight lid. Add milk and stir well. Cover and take turns shaking the container. Serve up the "mud" in ice cream cones. This cooking experience is fun to do outside.



COOKED O'S

Ingredients: O-shaped cereal, margarine, cinnamon sugar

Melt 2 tablespoons margarine in a skillet. Add 3 cups of cereal and sprinkle with cinnamon sugar. Stir over low heat until cereal is toasted and tasty.

LETTER PANCAKES

Ingredients: pancake mix, margarine, syrup, squeeze bottle (similar to those used for ketchup)

Make pancake mix according to the directions. Fill any syrup squeeze bottle with pancake mix, then form letters or numbers with it on the hot surface. Serve with margarine.



PANCAKE FACE

Ingredients: pancake mix, oil, margarine, and syrup

Make a large pancake according to the directions on the box. Using a plastic knife, cut out two small circles for eyes, a triangle for the nose and a U-shape for the mouth. Use the circles to make ears, the triangle to make a hat and the U-shape to make a collar. Fill the spaces with jelly or syrup.

PAINTED COOKIES

Ingredients: egg yolk, food coloring, roll or refrigerator sugar cookie dough, cotton swab

Slice your sugar cookie dough into $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch slices. Mix small amounts of food coloring with egg yolk and paint a design on the cookie dough with Q-tips. Bake on a cookie sheet according to the package directions.

LETTER BREAD

Ingredients: bread, milk, food coloring, cotton swabs

Mix a small amount of milk with a few drops of food coloring. Using a cotton swab, paint letters or a design on the bread with the colored milk. Toast in the toaster.

GREEN EGGS AND HAM

Ingredients: eggs, green food coloring, sliced ham, margarine

Beat eggs. Cut slices of ham into small pieces and add eggs. Stir in several drops of food coloring. Scramble in a skillet.

PIGS IN A BLANKET

Ingredients: 1 package of crescent rolls, hot dogs, cheese

Slice hot dog about halfway through and stuff with cheese. Roll hot dog up in one section of crescent roll dough. Bake in 375-degree oven approximately for 12 minutes.

PEANUT BUTTER PLAY DOUGH

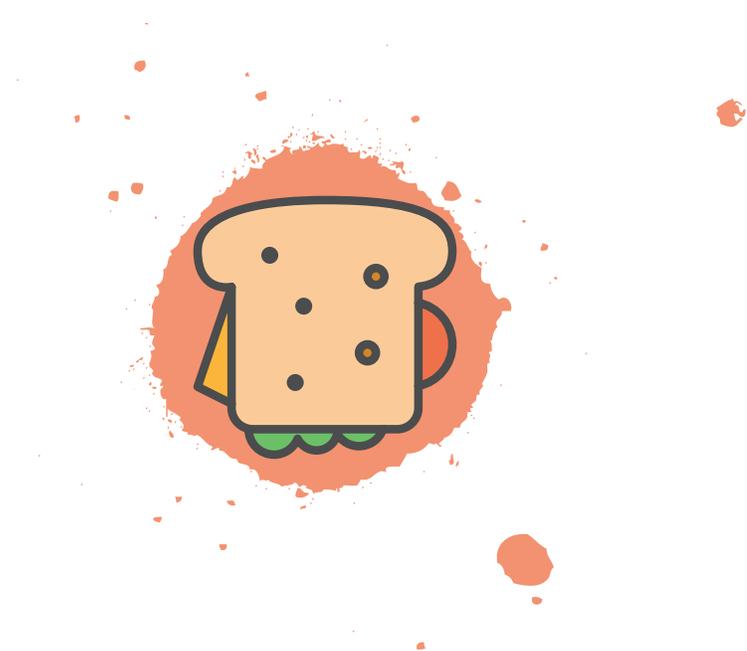
Ingredients: smooth peanut butter, honey, instant nonfat dry milk

Mix 1 cup of peanut butter, 1 cup of dry milk, and $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of honey together until smooth. Roll balls and other shapes.

SANDWICH SHAPES

Ingredients: bread, sliced meat, cheese slices, cookie cutters

Cut bread, meat and cheese with cookie cutter. Put together and eat.





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