

Ideas and Resources for Pre-K Instructional Activities At Home



Letter and Letter Sound Recognition:

- Magnetic grocery list – Ask child to use magnet letters on the refrigerator to “write” words. Help child sound out to spell words for the list.
- Play *I Spy* using letters and sounds while reading a book. Say “I spy something that starts with the letter *B*. Remember what sound a *B* makes? Bbb, Bbb, can you guess what I’m looking at?”
- Use chalk to write letters in each square of a sidewalk hopscotch grid. Say the name of each letter and something that starts with that letter sound as hopping from square to square.

Number Recognition and Counting:

- Count objects with children (e.g., their fingers, toes, buttons on their shirt, trees in the yard) and point out numerals (written) in the world around them (e.g., in books, magazines, labels)
- During cooking activities, discuss order that ingredients are added (e.g., “First, ... Second,..)
- Talk with children about combining sets of objects up to ten (e.g., five white flowers and two yellow flowers, four flip-flops and four tennis shoes)

Oral language and Vocabulary:

- Add new words by using a synonym for a commonly used word (e.g., motor = engine, help = assist, fat = stout)
- Describe children’s actions with varied descriptive words (e.g., Instead of saying “Run to the mailbox.” say “Dash to the large, green mailbox.”)
- Provide and read to children a variety of concept-related books (e.g., farm animals, vegetables, the body, fiction and nonfiction)

Online and digital resources:

- www.ageoflearning.com/schools -Free ABCmouse. [ABCMouse.com](http://www.abcmouse.com)® [Early Learning Academy](http://www.earlylearningacademy.com) is a comprehensive, research-validated curriculum for preschool through second grade.
- <https://tats.ucf.edu/family-involvement/> - the TATS website is a good resource for activities that parents/families can do with their children.

The Value of Play:

- Children learn through play.
 - Cognitive skills – like math and problem solving in a pretend grocery store
 - Physical abilities – like balancing blocks and running and jumping outside
 - New vocabulary – like the words they need to play with toy dinosaurs
 - Social skills – like playing together in a pretend car wash
 - Literacy skills – like creating a menu for a pretend restaurant
 - Creative Art skills – like creating art for local nursing home residents
- Play is healthy and reduces stress.
- Play is a child’s context for learning.

