

Getting Ready for Reading
and Writing
2 - 3 years



Show your child each day how you read and write to get things done. Look in the newspaper together to find out the weather or select a movie.

Label your child's drawings. Ask him to tell you about the picture he made and write the words on the bottom of the paper.

Show your child how you read the address label on mail. Let your child deliver mail to family members.

Hang letters at your child's eye level on the refrigerator or your child's bedroom door. Name them often.

Getting Ready for Reading
and Writing
3 - 4 years



Give your child paper and crayons to draw while in a restaurant. Encourage her to tell a story about the drawings and write down the words.

Point out familiar logos to your child. Soon he'll recognize the name without your help.

Keep a small chalkboard and chalk in the car. As you drive, your child can practice drawing or writing letters and numbers of the road signs he sees.

Sing the alphabet song to your child in the car. Ask her to sing with you.

Getting Ready for Reading
and Writing
1 - 2 years



Give your child a straw or safe stick and practice shapes, lines, or letters in the sand or dirt.

Tell stories about the different kinds of jobs people have in your neighborhood. Tell a story about the bus driver, mail carrier, fire fighter, ambulance driver.

Before going outside, ask your child to tell you what he likes to do or is going to do outside today.

Write three activities on a list. After playing, point to each activity on the list and see how many you did.



Look at word labels on cans, bottles, and boxes. Ask your child to guess what the words are by looking at the pictures on the products.

Show your child how the word on a coupon matches the words on the product. Point out a particular letter, shape, or number.

Encourage your child to look for familiar words and logos on products.

Talk about how many things you are buying to develop number concepts (*three apples, two boxes of cereal, four cans of soup*).