VROOM

New science shows that when we interact with our children, their brains take in all the things we say and do. VROOM is here to help you turn any moment into a brain building moment.
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Mind In The Making Workshops

An opportunity for parents, grandparents, child-care professionals, early-learning educators, caregivers,and interested community members. Join us on a learning adventure designed to help you and your children thrive. Fee waived due to the generosity of The Patterson Foundation. For more information, please contact info@gradelevelreadingsuncoast.net

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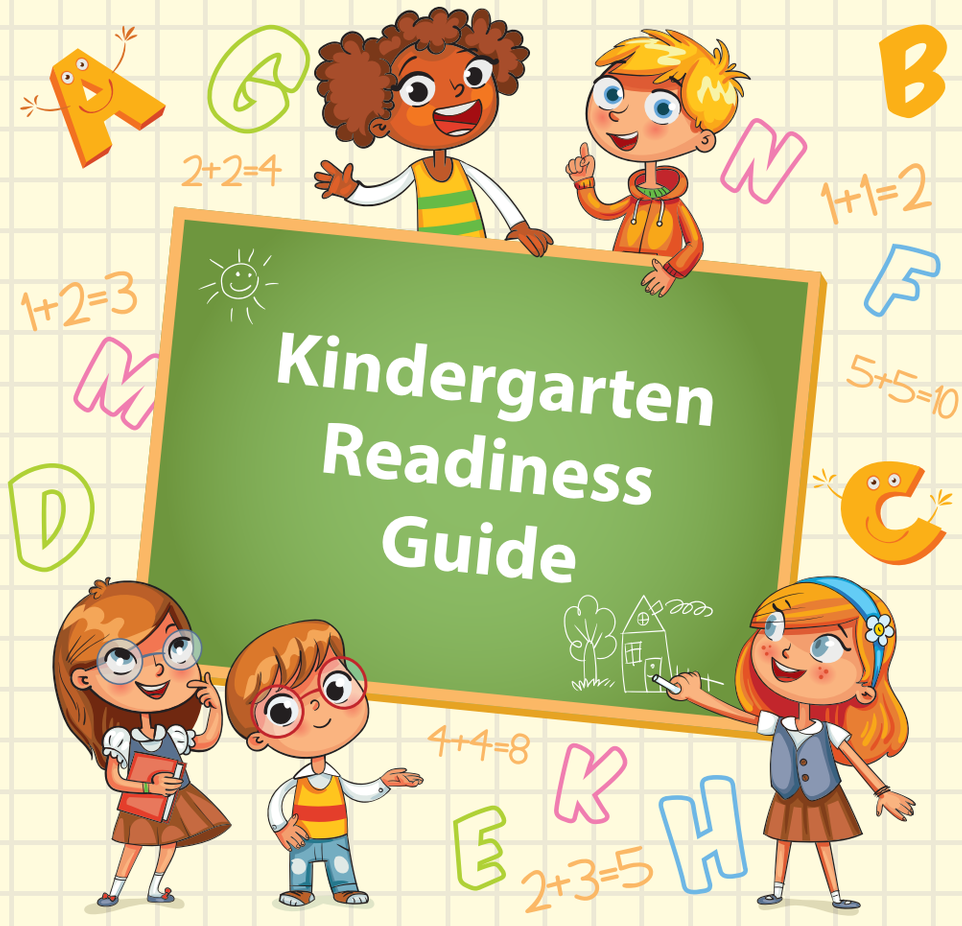

Ideas and Activities For Parents and Children

SUNCOAST The Campaign for GRADE-LEVEL READING

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ALPHABET and LETTERS

Play a matching game with your child using uppercase and lowercase alphabet letters. Pick out an uppercase letter. Can your child find the matching lowercase letter?

Call out the name of an alphabet letter. Can your child find that letter? Can your child make the sound the letter makes? Let your child call out the name of the next letter. Continue taking turns.

Write your child's name on a card or a piece of paper. Write other names or words on similar pieces of paper. Can your child find his/her name?

Sort the letters into three piles. Which letters are made with only straight lines? Which letters have only curved lines? Which letters are a combination of curved and straight lines?

Assemble all the letters of your child's name. Put them in order left to right. Remove a letter. Can your child tell you the name of the letter that has been removed? Mix up the letters. Can your child help you get the letters back into the correct order?

If you have a magazine or newspaper ready to recycle, ask your child to circle or cut out certain letters.

BOOKS

Read aloud to your child every day.

Share how you are holding the book. Where is the top of the book? Where is the back of the book? Can you show me the inside of the book? Let your child practice turning the pages.

Talk about the book cover. Show the title of the book. Share the name of the author and illustrator.

Read the book title aloud. Ask, what do you think this book is about? What do you think will happen in this story? After you have finished the book, compare what happened with what they predicted.

Let your child "read" to you by taking a picture-walk through the book. Let them tell you the story of the book using the pictures for clues.

As you read to your child, move your finger under each word as you say it.

After you finish reading the book, ask your child to draw a picture of a favorite part.

COLORS, SHAPES, and PATTERNS

Ask your child to find the following colors: red, green, blue, orange, yellow, black, brown, and white.

Using foam shapes, clay, or blocks, make a pattern. For example, two blue blocks, one red block, two blue blocks. Or one circle, two squares, one circle. Can your child continue the pattern? Can your child create a brand new pattern?

Find shapes at home, at the park, or in the grocery store. Can you find something that is a circle? Can you find a triangle? A square? A rectangle?

Can your child name three things in the room that are the same color? Let your child pick the next color, take turns.

NUMBERS

Write each number, 1-10, on a card or a piece of paper. Can your child name each number? Change the order of the numbers. Can your child put them back in the correct order? Using cereal, have your child place the correct number of cereal pieces on each number.

Play number games during everyday activities. For example, count the number of an item going into the laundry. Or, while setting the table have your child count the number of spoons, forks, plates, cups, and napkins. If you are at a restaurant, count how many people you see. If you are in a parking lot, count how many blue cars you see. How many red cars do you see?

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Play board games like Candy Land or activity games like Head, Shoulder, Knees and Toes, Simon Says, If You're Happy and You Know It, or I Spy with your child. Playing games helps your child learn about taking turns, following directions and rules, and being a good sport. Playing games also helps with social interactions and learning cooperation.

Find counting and alphabet songs on YouTube or the internet to share with your children.