



Kindergarten Here I Come!

**Cornerstone's resource guide to reinforce
reading, writing and math skills over the summer
for students entering Kindergarten**



Reading With Your Child

Before, During and After

Before Reading:

1. Read the title and author.
2. Ask your child what he/she thinks the book will be about.
3. Look through the pictures of the book together.
4. As the two of you are looking through the pictures, make guesses about what might happen in the book.

During Reading:

1. Have your child read to you.
2. Stop and talk from time to time about the guesses you two made and how they compare to what actually happened in the story.

After Reading:

1. Discuss with your child his/her favorite parts, funny parts, sad parts or whatever is appropriate.
2. Ask your child if he/she liked the book and why or why not?
3. Encourage your child to read the book to other family members.

What to say to your child when they are having difficulty figuring out a word:

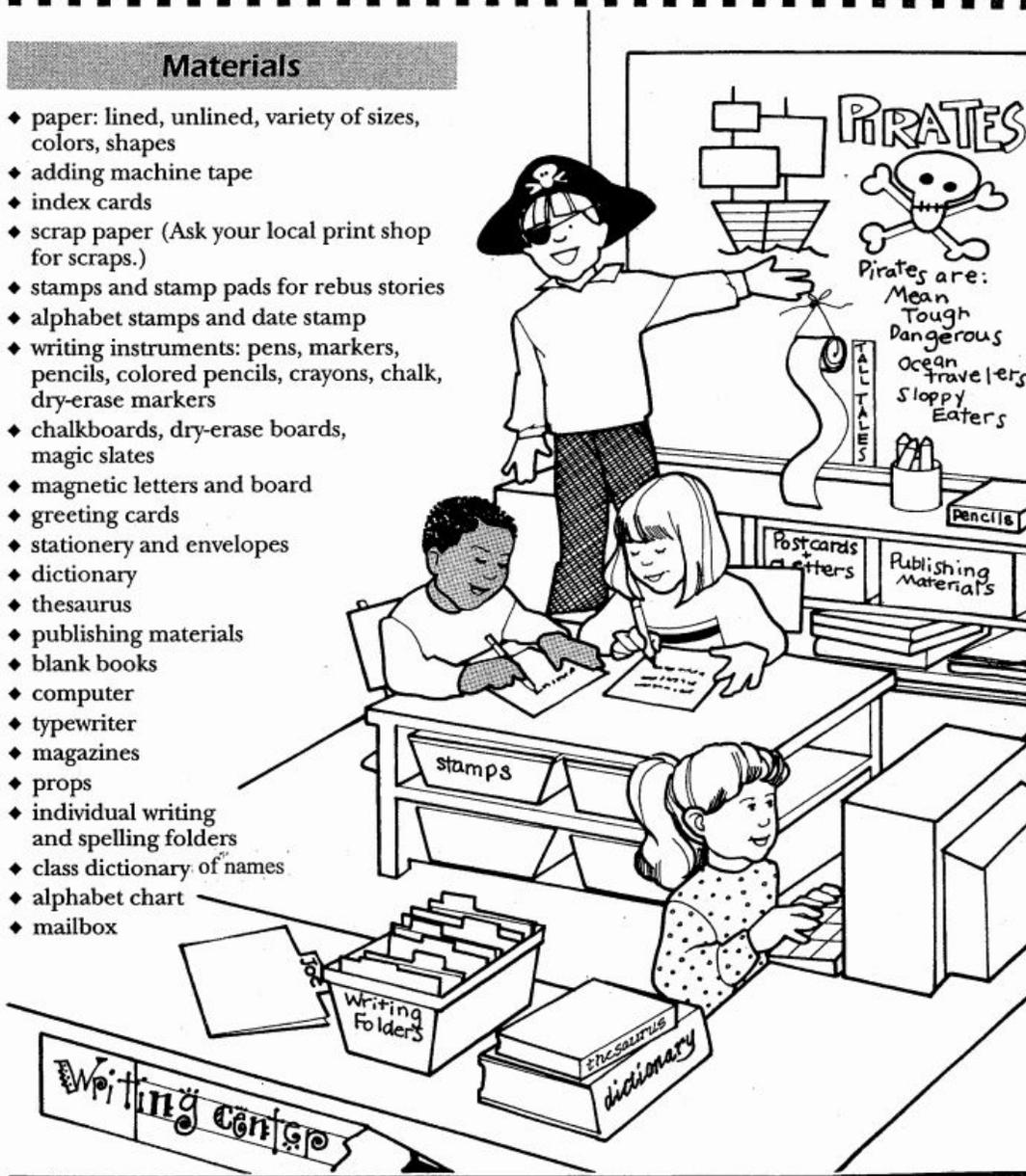
1. Before saying anything, give them plenty of time to try and figure it out on his/her own.
 2. Say, "Try that again."
 3. Say, "Look at the picture."
 4. Say, "Think about what would make sense."
 5. Say, "Look for digraphs (or chunks) that you know."
- *an example of a digraph would be the "sh" sound

Writing Center

The Writing Center gives children the opportunity for many different writing experiences. Try to make writing experiences real and purposeful for the individual child. Also include ideas that spark the desire to write.

Materials

- ◆ paper: lined, unlined, variety of sizes, colors, shapes
- ◆ adding machine tape
- ◆ index cards
- ◆ scrap paper (Ask your local print shop for scraps.)
- ◆ stamps and stamp pads for rebus stories
- ◆ alphabet stamps and date stamp
- ◆ writing instruments: pens, markers, pencils, colored pencils, crayons, chalk, dry-erase markers
- ◆ chalkboards, dry-erase boards, magic slates
- ◆ magnetic letters and board
- ◆ greeting cards
- ◆ stationery and envelopes
- ◆ dictionary
- ◆ thesaurus
- ◆ publishing materials
- ◆ blank books
- ◆ computer
- ◆ typewriter
- ◆ magazines
- ◆ props
- ◆ individual writing and spelling folders
- ◆ class dictionary of names
- ◆ alphabet chart
- ◆ mailbox



Writing Center Quick Tips

Paper and Pencils – A fun choice of writing materials encourages kids to write. Look for different scrap paper and cards and seasonal pens and pencils that will encourage your child to write.

Dry-Erase Boards - Dry-erase boards are a favorite with children. They can write and edit with ease.

Adding Machine Tape – Adding machine tape is great for writing tall tales and for making lists. Hang it up at the writing center and they can roll off what they need.

Family Writing – Cover a table with white butcher paper...have each family member write on it...everyone can write on a given topic or on their own.

Letter Writing – Write to a family member or friend and ask them to write back to you.

Props – Create a writing prop box. They can pick things out of the box to write about.

Notepad Notables – There are so many fabulous notepads available in all shapes and sizes. Provide these at the center to suggest writing activities.

Greeting Card Starters – Use the card picture to brainstorm words to write about the card.

These are just a few ideas to get you started. The important thing is for it to be FUN for you and your child!

Math Activities

- Practice counting with real objects (stones, shells, butterflies).
- Practice writing numbers with wipe off boards, sidewalk chalk, paints, pencils and paper.
- Solve simple math problems, “How many more forks do I need to set the table?”
- Talk about the calendar with your child. Look forward to and countdown to special events such as vacations, birthdays and holidays. Count the weeks and days to an event and determine which day it will fall.
- Make a backyard counting book.
<https://www.education.com/download-pdf/activity/15914/>
- Nuts and bolts sorting activity.
http://www.education.com/activity/article/Nuts_Bolts_Kindergarten/
- Make a summer calendar.
http://www.education.com/activity/article/calendar_kindergarten/
- Counting cups activity.
http://www.education.com/activity/article/Counting_Cups/
- Number memory.
http://www.education.com/activity/article/Number_Memory_kindergarten/

Games you can play as a family:

Compare

You need a deck of cards with the face cards removed.

Play with a partner.

1. Deal the cards facedown.
2. Players (2 or more) turn over their top cards and place them in the middle.
3. The player with the highest card says “Me!” and takes the cards. If the cards are the same, both players turn over another card and the winner takes all of the cards that have been turned over.
4. Keep turning over cards. Each time, the player with the highest number says “Me!” and takes the cards.
5. The game is over when there are no more cards to turn over. The player with the most cards wins.

More Ways to Play:

The player with the lowest number says “Me!”

Play with 3 players.

Play with Wild Cards. A Wild Card can be any number.

Counters in a Cup

You need 10 small counters (can be pieces of cereal, mini erasers, coins, etc.) and a cup.

Play with a partner.

1. Put the 10 counters on the table and count them together.
2. Player 1 hides some of the counters under a cup.
3. Player 2 tells how many are hidden (based on how many are still left on the table).
4. Player 1 removes the cup.
5. Both players count the counters that were under the cup.
6. Take turns being Player 1 and Player 2.

More Ways to Play:

Once your child has mastered 10, you can increase the number of counters.

Collect 20 Together

You need one die and counters (can be pieces of cereal, mini erasers, coins, etc.)

Play with a partner. Work together.

1. Player 1 rolls the die and takes that many counters.
2. Player 2 rolls the die and takes that many counters and adds them to the pile.
3. After each turn, count how many counters you have.
4. Keep playing. Players work together to collect 20 counters.
5. The game is over when you have 20 counters together.

More Ways to Play:

Play with 2 dice.

For a challenge: play Collect 25 Together or Collect 30 Together

Fun Websites for Kids to Explore

Starfall (K-2)

Free website full of fun activities that encourage reading and the development of phonics skills.

<http://www.starfall.com/>

ABCya.com (K-5)

Website full of games that reinforce math and phonics concepts.

<http://www.abcya.com/>