



KINDERGARTEN - QUARTER 1

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD AT HOME?

Your child's report card came home today! We are making a lot of progress, but there is a lot to learn. If your child still needs some extra practice and help with a concept, we have highlighted it for you on the report card sheet. Below you will find some suggestions of things you can do at home to help with each area on the report card. These ideas are just a start - there are endless ways to support your child's learning from home!



READING

SPEAKING AND LISTENING:

Listens for information, Verbally shares information, Expresses ideas clearly, Follows directions, Takes turns speaking

- Practice giving your child 3 simple directions and help them listen and follow them in order, Ex: "Touch your toes, jump 5 times, and shout hooray!"
- Ask your child a question each day, have them practice telling you their answer in a complete sentence.
- For helping your child learn to take turns speaking, use language like "my turn" and "your turn."

PHONICS:

Identifies 20+ capital letters, Identifies 20+ lowercase letters, Identifies 20+ letter sounds

- Write individual letters on sticky notes and then place them all over your house. Have your child say the letter name and sound as they walk by it each time. Focus on the letters they don't know and just do a few at a time!
- Write letters on index cards. Put them in a large circle on the floor. Put music on and have your child walk around the circle to the music. When the music goes off, have your child tell you the letter name and sound they land on.
- Do an alphabet scavenger hunt. Tell your child a letter and have them go find it on a food item, book, etc. in your house and bring it back to show you!
- Print a page of text, grab a magazine, or use junk mail and a highlighter. Ask kids to highlight as many of one letter as they can find.
- Practice multiple times in a day but in short chunks. For example, have magnets on the fridge and point out a few letters in a minute.
- Kids learn through touch. Have them make their letters out of playdough or kinetic sand.

CONCEPTS OF PRINT:

Reads left to right, One to one matching, Uses pictures to aid understanding, Reads sight words in text

- Have your child touch each word as they read a book. Make it fun by using a variety of pointers.
- Write a simple sentence using a sight word we've learned (Ex: I see a dog.) Cut the words apart and have your child put it in the correct order and read it while pointing to each word. Repeat mixing and fixing the words to the sentence.

PHONEMIC AWARENESS:

Recognizes beginning sounds in words

- Say a word, have your child say the beginning sound, (NOT the letter name).
- Do a sound scavenger hunt. Tell your child to go find an object that begins with a sound and have them go find something around the house and bring it back to show you.
- Say a word, have your child think of more words that begin with the same sound. (Ex: bird - baby, box, bug, etc.)
- Give your child two words that start with the same sound and one that is different and ask them which one doesn't belong. For example, dog, mouse, and deer.
- Play I spy with my little eye something that starts with a /b/. (Say the sound, not the letter).

FLUENCY:

Can name 25+ random letters in one minute

- Use the letter fluency booklet to practice saying the letters as fast as they can.
- To develop speed, consider doing just the letters in their name or a few letters they already know. Set a goal for one minute and see how they do. Then add a few more letters at a time.

READ HIGH FREQUENCY WORDS:

Reads 10+ sight words

- Use the sight word kit to play games and practice words.
- Look up videos on YouTube that help practice the words with fun music.
- Print a page of text, grab a magazine, or use junk mail and a highlighter. Ask kids to highlight as many of their sight words as they can find.
- Practice making up sentences that use the sight words of the week.
- Practice writing the sight words. Although we don't expect kindergarten students to spell them from memory, writing the words can help them to remember reading them better.

LISTENING/READING COMPREHENSION:

Excellent understanding, includes all important details

- After reading a story aloud, ask your child to retell the beginning, middle, and end of the story.
- After reading a story aloud, ask your child to retell their favorite part of the story and why.
- After reading a story aloud, ask your child to draw a picture of their favorite character.

READS GRADE LEVEL TEXT:

Can read grade level text

- Keep reading! Practice with the books we send home consistently.



WRITING

INFORMATIONAL/EXPLANATORY WRITING:

Writes or tells a fact on a given topic and picture matches text, Uses letters to represent writing

- This category is all about writing facts or information. You can have your child watch a little video on YouTube or read them a book on a topic they enjoy, (cheetahs, volcanoes, snow, dinosaurs, the ocean, penguins, etc.). Have them write one sentence about something they learned. Encourage them to write any letters they can hear and know. Have them draw a picture to match their words.

OPINION WRITING:

Writes or tells an opinion on a given topic and picture matches text, Uses letters to represent writing

- This category is all about writing an opinion such as, "I like _____." Ask your child a question about something that is their favorite or something they like. (Ex: What is your favorite food, animal, season, sport, etc.). You can also give them two things to compare such as, "Do you like ice cream or cake the best?" Have them write one sentence stating their opinion. Encourage them to write any letters they can hear and know. Have them draw a picture to match their words.

NARRATIVE WRITING:

Writes or tells about an event on a given topic and picture matches text, Uses letters to represent writing

- This category is all about writing personal stories or events. Give your child a prompt such as a vacation memory, a time they were scared, a birthday or holiday memory, etc. Have them write one sentence about what happened. Encourage them to write any letters they can hear and know. Have them draw a picture to match their words.

HANDWRITING:

Writes name correctly with model, Traces letters correctly, Writes numbers 1-5 correctly with no model

- Squirt shaving cream on a table and let your child write letters, numbers, or their name in the cream. Smooth it out to erase and start again.
- Dump some salt on a cookie sheet and have your child write letters, numbers, or their name in it.
- Use pipe cleaners to have kids create letters or numbers.
- Write your child's name on a strip of paper and then cut each letter apart in a simple zigzag. Mix up the letters and ask your child to put them back together in the right order. Then practice writing it on another piece of paper.
- Make letters and numbers using playdoh.



MATH

COUNTING AND CARDINALITY:

Can count 5 objects with one-to-one matching, Recognizes 1-5 randomly, Can write numbers 1-5, Can tell how many things are in a group 1-5

- Go on a counting walk. Find things in nature, on the playground, or at home to count as you go by.
- Use small items like mini-erasers, marbles, dry beans, polished rocks, and plastic gems, etc. to make counting objects fun. After counting objects, have them write the corresponding number.
- Counting on a number line is helpful to see the progression of numbers. Place a number line on a wall and use a fun pointer to count along the line.
- Make a simple number BINGO game with numbers your child may still need help recognizing. Call out a number and have them find it and mark it. Keep going until they have 5 in a row!
- Hang numbers in various places around the room using post-it notes and hold a scavenger hunt for them!
- Read counting books with your children and have them count the things in each picture. (10 Black Dots, Mouse Count, Anno's Counting Book, Bear Counts, 10 Red Apples, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, etc.)
- Match two different types of objects together, such as five counting bears and a domino that shows five dots.
- Match number cards from a card deck or game of Uno with dots on dominoes. Find every number combination on the dominoes.
- Grab a piece of paper and write numbers in a row. Cut the numbers apart and have your child put the numbers back together in order.

GEOMETRY:

Recognizes 4 basic shapes, Names 4 basic shapes, Draws 4 basic shapes (circle, square, triangle, rectangle)

Knows positional words (on top of, next to, below, above, under, beside, etc.)

- Listen to a catchy song on YouTube to help your child remember the names of the shapes.
- Use popsicle sticks, pipe cleaners, Q-tips, or toothpicks to form the shapes.
- Use playdoh to form the shapes.
- Draw a shape outline on a paper and have your child cover the outline with small stickers, dots with a marker, or paint dots using a Q-tip.
- Go on a shape hunt and look for shapes in the environment around you. Have your child say the names of the shapes they see.
- Read books about shapes in the real world. The Shape of Things is a good book with lots of picture examples.
- Draw shapes in salt or shaving cream on a tray.
- Find some small household objects and have your child sort them by shape.
- Have your child play a listening and drawing game that will help them practice positional words. Print or draw something in the middle of a paper that they like, (unicorn, dog, shark, etc.). Then tell them things like: "Draw a blue fish above the shark, Draw a green fish next to the shark" and so on.
- Have your child get a little object or stuffed animal. Tell them directions like, "Put the bear above your head, Put the bear under the table" and so on.