## Knox County Schools

**Targets for Kindergarten Entry**

**A five-year-old with these skills is READY to succeed at school.**

expect :e1

achieve more

## Letters and Sounds:

* Enjoys being read to and can retell a story
* Recognizes letters (upper and lower case) and some letter sounds
* Repeats the first sound in a word
* Speaks in complete sentences
* Prints his or her first name

## Math:

* Counts in order from 1-20
* Recognizes numbers and quantities to 5
* Names and sorts items by color, shape and size
* Understands concepts such as more, less, same, above, below, big, small

# Reading together every day helps your child

***master these skills.***

## Social:

* Settles in to new groups or situations
* Can concentrate on a task for 5 minutes
* Follows simple directions
* Shows kindness and concern for others

*In Partnership with the Children's Reading Foundation*

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|  |  | **What is the most important way to ensure my** • **Preparing Meals** - Put magnetic letters on the**child has these skills?** refrigerator for play* **Shopping** - Talk about beginning letters of food,

Read aloud, read aloud, read aloud ....every day together clothes, or toyswith your child. Studies show children must hear andshare in hundreds of stories and Nursery Rhymes before • **Nap Time** - Read a story and talk about what's they are ready to learn and read in school. It is also happening on each page. Let children predict what important for them to talk and talk and talk about what is going to happen next, or "read" the story to you. they see every day and say the sounds of the letters theyare learning. • **Doing Chores** - Put sign on a few objects at home, such as "bed" and make a game of saying"The single most important activity for building the letters aloudknowledge required for eventual success in reading is**reading aloud to children.** This is especially so during • **Play Time** - Point to an object and ask children to the preschool years." *The Report of the Commission on* say words that rhyme, including silly words: ball, *Reading* wall, tall, dall, jall, nall**What are some simple activities parents can** • **Eating** - Say nonsense rhymes such as *Hey**Diddle, Diddle***do at home to teach their child these skills?*** **Lesson Time** - Spell personal names with letter Whenever you are working with your child, it should cards. Let children match each capital letter with always be **fun!** Early childhood advocates call it *playing* its lowercase form, or put the letters in order.

*with a purpose.* Some ideas are: Draw a letter and find objects that begin with the same sound. (ball, boy, bike)* **Snack Time** - Look for letters on food boxes or

cans, and say them together • **Library Time** - Make weekly trips to the library part of your family's fun time together. Books* **Driving** - Sing songs and read signs, such as about going to school help build children's McDonald's or Walmart - pointing out various confidence about kindergarten. A librarian can letters help you find them.
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