



KCS @ home
Summer Edition

PreK
Summer Activities



These activities are designed to support preschool students as they prepare for another year of preschool or as they transition to Kindergarten.

How to use the activities:

- These activities can be used to support language, fine motor, and movement skills for your child.
- Choose something each day to help your child stay engaged in learning activities.
- These activities can be done either outside or inside.
- You may modify them based on your child's developmental and physical skills.

If you have not registered your child for kindergarten, you may do so on Wednesdays in June and July from 9-12 at your child's zoned school.

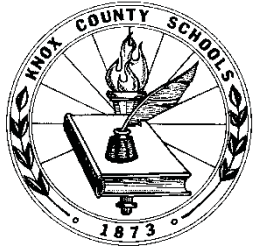
Each school has a website with more detailed information and contact numbers and email addresses.

June Activities

<p>Take a nature walk outside. Tell 3 things about what you see and use your very best speech!</p>	<p>Practice buttoning and zipping lots of different kinds of clothes.</p>	<p>Play Simon Says with emotion words and facial expressions.</p>	<p>Talk about somewhere you would like to visit. Be sure to use your best sounds and vocabulary!</p>	<p>Make a sandwich with an adult. Tell someone what all the steps were in order.</p>
<p>Write shapes, letters, numbers with shaving cream or whipped cream.</p>	<p>With your family around the table take turns giving compliments to each member.</p>	<p>Make a hand puppet out of an old sock or paper bag. Use your puppet to tell about your favorite tv show, movie, or book.</p>	<p>Draw letters on a sidewalk, porch, or driveway using water and a paintbrush.</p>	<p>Go outside and find a few flowers or plants you like. Describe each one using three descriptive words! (color, shape, texture, length, smell, etc.)</p>
<p>Tell someone about your favorite movie! Make sure to name the characters and tell where it takes place.</p>	<p>Practice counting objects. Use dice or cards, have your child identify the number and then count out that amount of objects.</p>	<p>Find, name, describe, and compare 2 bugs you see outside. Which bug is your favorite? Why?</p>	<p>Name as many objects as you can that have wheels. Then pick another descriptor and try again. Ex. tall things, blue things, etc.</p>	<p>Play "emotion charades": figure out how I am feeling based on what my face looks like.</p>
<p>Call a family member on the phone. Ask them about the kinds of activities they liked to do during the summer.</p>	<p>Have your child take a stuffed animal along with them for the day. Discuss what adventures they both had. Great way to work on past tense verbs and pronouns.</p>	<p>Gather sticks, leaves, flowers, etc. Make a collage using these. Use your good speech and vocabulary to describe your picture.</p>	<p>Work on learning to tie your shoes or put your socks and shoes on without help from an adult.</p>	<p>Go on a treasure hunt! Take turns hiding objects around the house. Use descriptive vocabulary, location concepts, and giving/following directions.</p>

July Activities

<p>Make the letters of the alphabet Tear tissue paper into small pieces and glue to letters.</p> <p>See if you can name some words that start with each letter.</p>	<p>Practice cutting with "elbows in" and "thumb up" position to cut playdoh, plastic straws, toilet paper rolls, construction paper with straight/ curvey/ jagged bolded lines.</p>	<p>Try a Go Noodle, Cosmic Yoga or similar video for exercise. cosmic kids yoga</p> <p>Mindful and relaxing yoga Yoga for Kids w/Animals 4 min</p>	<p>Hold 4-5 pennies at a time in one hand and transfer them into a piggy bank or cut-out slot one at a time without dropping them. Count the pennies as you add them to the bank.</p>	<p>Letter Writing: Practice in the air, in the sand, in shaving cream, on your palm, on someone's back... until you can do it AUTOMATICALLY when someone calls out a letter.</p>
<p>Use a turkey baster or other squirter to puff air and race cotton balls across and off the table.</p>	<p>Practice writing your name with different types of pens, pencils, or crayons.</p>	<p>Using a soccer or similar ball, see how many times you can gently kick the ball in a row; how many times you can pass it between parent/siblings and child.</p>	<p>Go on a scavenger hunt and share a sentence describing where you found each item. Use words for colors, size, shape, and place.</p>	<p>Practice skipping, hopping, jumping and running fast and slow. Use numbers to tell how far or how many, for example; hop 5 times, run in place for 6 seconds, jump and count to 10.</p>
<p>Tape a coloring sheet to the wall at shoulder level and color it while standing.</p>	<p>BUILD SOMETHING and see if someone in your family can copy it. See if you can copy their design.</p>	<p>Play red light, green light running, walking fast, jumping, crawling or rolling. List different ways to move and try them out. For example; crawl like a crab, run like a horse</p>	<p>Pull cotton balls apart, color them with markers, then glue them on construction paper to create a colorful picture.</p>	<p>Form a ball from newspapers or paper and shoot baskets at a laundry basket</p>
<p>Make up a dance routine to a favorite song. Make sure to jump high and squat low.</p>	<p>Make a necklace and bracelet by linking paper clips or lacing beads or cereal. See if you can make a pattern with the cereal.</p>	<p>Learn to write and spell your last name.</p>	<p>Fold a paper into 4 squares and create a personal cartoon titled "This summer I ...</p>	<p>Sort socks and fold them together. Help sort other pieces of laundry and learn to fold them.</p>



Knox County Schools

expect more
achieve more

Targets for Kindergarten Entry

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

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

***Reading together every day
helps your child
master these skills.***

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

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

What is the most important way to ensure my child has these skills?

Read aloud, read aloud, read aloud....every day together with your child. Studies show children must hear and share in hundreds of stories and Nursery Rhymes before they are ready to learn and read in school. It is also important for them to talk and talk and talk about what they see every day and say the sounds of the letters they are learning.

"The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is **reading aloud to children**. This is especially so during the preschool years." *The Report of the Commission on Reading*

What are some simple activities parents can do at home to teach their child these skills?

Whenever you are working with your child, it should always be **fun!** Early childhood advocates call it *playing with a purpose*. Some ideas are:

- **Snack Time** - Look for letters on food boxes or cans, and say them together
- **Driving** – Sing songs and read signs, such as McDonald's or Walmart – pointing out various letters

- **Preparing Meals** – Put magnetic letters on the refrigerator for play
- **Shopping** - Talk about beginning letters of food, clothes, or toys
- **Nap Time** – Read a story and talk about what's happening on each page. Let children predict what is going to happen next, or "read" the story to you.
- **Doing Chores** – Put sign on a few objects at home, such as "bed" and make a game of saying letters aloud
- **Play Time** – Point to an object and ask children to say words that rhyme, including silly words: ball, wall, tall, dall, jall, nall
- **Eating** – Say nonsense rhymes such as *Hey Diddle, Diddle*
- **Lesson Time** – Spell personal names with letter cards. Let children match each capital letter with its lowercase form, or put the letters in order. Draw a letter and find objects that begin with the same sound. (ball, boy, bike)
- **Library Time** – Make weekly trips to the library part of your family's fun time together. Books about going to school help build children's confidence about kindergarten. A librarian can help you find them.