

# Got Kids? Get Books!

Help your child  
prepare for kindergarten  
with these six pre-reading skills



## Vocabulary

Knowing the names of things.

Read to your children in your first language. Ask a librarian to help you find books in your language.

Talk to your child a lot. Add more detail to what your child says. Expand conversations with questions.

Read to your child every day. Your child will encounter more rare words through books than in everyday conversation.



Being able to hear and manipulate the smaller sounds in words.

## Phonological Awareness

Sing songs with your child.

Make up your own silly songs and rhymes.

Play rhyming games, like "I see something that rhymes with far..." - Car. Or, "What rhymes with cat?" "Do cat and dog rhyme?"



Having an interest in and enjoyment of books.

## Print Motivation

Make book sharing a special time between you and your child.

It's never too early to read books to your child - even infants enjoy being read to.

Visit the public library often for a variety of choices.



Noticing print, and that in English we read from left to right and from top to bottom, and knowing how to handle a book.

## Print Awareness

Print is every-where - point it out on menus, signs, newspapers, and labels.

Point to words on the page, especially repeated words and phrases.

Let your child hold the book and turn the pages.



Knowing that letters look different from each other and have different names and sounds.

## Letter Knowledge

Read alphabet books and sing the alphabet song.

Letters are made out of shapes. Help your child learn shapes: a ball is round, a box is square...

Let your child play with blocks or magnetic letters. Encourage your child to make letters with clay or cooked noodles.



The ability to describe things and events, and tell stories.

## Narrative Skills

Read well loved books over and over again.

Talk to your child about everyday things you are doing.

Ask questions and listen patiently to encourage your child to tell you about everything.