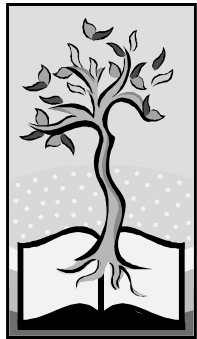


*Parents
are their
children's
first and most
important
teachers...*



LOOK INSIDE
for things you can do
NOW to help your child
be ready for kindergarten
LATER!

Recommended Toys & Books

18—36 months:

- 📖 The Little Red Hen
- 📖 Clifford the Big Red Dog
- 📖 Wait Till the Moon is Full
- 📖 The Very Hungry Caterpillar
- 📖 Millions of Cats
- 📖 Chicka Chicka Boom Boom
- 📖 Curious George
- 📖 The Cat in the Hat
- 📖 The Bunny Planet
- 📖 Brown Bear, Brown Bear,
What Do You See?
- 📖 Mother Goose

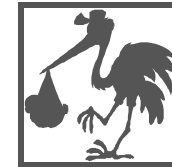
- ✍ Fat, Washable Crayons &
Markers
- 📖 Board Books
- ✂ Chunky Puzzles
- 📞 Toy Telephone
- 📦 Building & Sorting Toys
- 📖 Alphabet Toys
- 🍳 Play Dishes and Cookware

**Check out your local
library for books and activities
designed to encourage
early learning!**
(804) 979-7151, ext. 300

For more information on
community resources, contact:
United Way
Information & Referral
(804) 972-1703

Support for these brochures was
provided by Charlottesville/Albemarle
Commission on Children and Families

GETTING READY...



From Here

To There



A Parent's Guide To Encouraging Early Learning For Your 18—36 Month Child

Provided by the
Early Literacy Work Group
of the
*Partnership for Children
of Charlottesville/Albemarle*
(804) 296-4118

Language

Reading

Writing

What Your Child Is Doing

- ★ 18-24 months — Uses 2-word sentences
- ★ Can follow 2 or 3 directions at a time
- ★ Can name simple body parts
- ★ Can ask for juice, water, milk
- ★ Can say own name
- ★ 24-36 months — Uses question words (what, when, who)
- ★ Understands uses of common objects
- ★ Speaks in 2-5 word sentences
- ★ Increases vocabulary daily

- ★ Points to and names objects in picture books
- ★ Copies adult voices and actions
- ★ Follows simple stories
- ★ Looks at books on his own
- ★ Likes to help turn the pages
- ★ Joins in when a book has rhymes and repeated words
- ★ Likes to ask and answer questions
- ★ Likes to hear the same story over and over
- ★ Can fill in the words in a story they know

- ★ Can hold and use fat crayons for scribbling
- ★ Begins to do many things for herself
- ★ Can use a variety of writing and drawing tools
- ★ Begins to notice letters and writing
- ★ Will attempt to copy adult's writing
- ★ Can describe pictures and writings

What You Can Do

- ♥ Talk, sing, and read often to your child
- ♥ Use your child's name when you talk to him or her
- ♥ Teach your child by naming items as you use them and describing daily activities as you do them
- ♥ Play rhyming and finger games with your child
- ♥ Listen as long as it takes for your child to tell a story
- ♥ Provide opportunities for make-believe play and join in with your child

- ♥ Read to your child every day
- ♥ Show enthusiasm when you read
- ♥ Point to the words as you read
- ♥ Describe the pictures and point out details your child might have missed
- ♥ Let your child participate in the reading by finishing the sentence or describing the pictures
- ♥ Ask questions about the story and what will happen
- ♥ Choose books about everyday activities and relate them to your child's activities
- ♥ While out, point out different signs and explain their purpose

- ♥ Give your child fat, washable crayons and allow them to scribble on paper taped to the table.
- ♥ Proudly display your child's drawings and attempts at writing on the refrigerator.
- ♥ Have your child tell a story about their picture and you write the words as they "dictate"
- ♥ Make a "book" of your child's writings and drawings and keep it in a special place
- ♥ While grocery shopping, let your child try to find/recognize the labels on brands you usually buy.

It's OK If:

- ☺ Your child doesn't talk at the same level as others. Children learn on their own timetable.
- ☺ Uses objects or words in unique ways. Trying things out in different ways helps her learn.

- ☺ You don't read a story word for word. Toddlers are more interested in the pictures and being with you!
- ☺ He wants to read the same story over and over. He likes repetition.

- ☺ Your child scribbles and/or only makes marks on the paper. Her ability to handle the crayon will come with time.
- ☺ Doesn't hold the crayon in the typical "pencil" fashion.