

Welcome To Kindergarten !

For detailed reading information, please visit: www.mrsjudyaraujo.com

A. Read to your child every day ~ 15 minutes each day! There is much research on the importance of reading aloud. Show that reading is FUN! Talk about the pictures, events, favorite parts. Reading aloud will expose your child to new words, ideas, places, events, and more complex plots and sentences than beginning reading books have to offer. Another words, if your child is learning to read he/she can read those books. YOU, however, should be reading more difficult picture books to your child, such as your child's library books.

B. Teach your child the names of the letters of the alphabet. Play games of matching the lower case letter to the upper case letter and visa versa. Teach the sounds of the letters. There is new research finding that it is beneficial to teach the letter SOUND *before* the letter NAME. Expose your child to both!

C. Teach your child how to write his/her name properly ~ using an upper case letter only at the first letter. The other letters should be lower case. Teach that letters start from the top down ~ be sure your child is forming letters correctly so not to have him/her develop bad habits. Developmentally, capitals are easier so it is suggested to teach them first. The capital teaching order helps teach correct formation and orientation while eliminating reversals. Learning capitals first makes it easy to transition to lowercase letters.

Frog Jump Capitals Starting Corner Capitals Center Starting Capitals
F E D P B R N M H K L U V W X Y Z C O Q G S A I T J

Teach lowercase c, o, s, v, and w first because they are exactly the same as their capital partners, only smaller. By teaching capitals first, we have prepared children for nearly half of the lowercase letters that are similar in formation.

c o s v w t a d g u i e l k y j p r n m h b f q x z

Research suggests having your child use a small golf pencil rather than the big, thick pencils made for children.

D. Point out words seen around the home and neighborhood, such as those on cereal boxes and signs. Children will learn to read the words they see frequently around them.

E. Expose your child to many different places, activities, and events. Children who know a lot about different things will have an easier time reading.

F. Sit down with your child and practice telling stories about something that happened recently. Write these stories on paper in a simple way (large print/short sentences/basic words) and have your child practice reading them with you.

G. Encourage your child to read. One way your child can read today on his/her own is to "read the pictures." If the book is familiar have your child retell the book using the pictures.

H. Make reading and learning a family event. Model that YOU are a reader, and provide your child with many books and magazines of his/her interest to read as YOU read.

I. Check out this preschool website which has fun, practical activities addressing preschool skills such as coordination, listening, thinking, social skills, and more! <http://www.preschoolexpress.com/>

J. Starfall is a great free website from learning ABCs to beginning reading skills! <http://www.starfall.com/>

K. Visit the Interactive Live Binders at www.mrsjudyaraujo.com ~ for free interactive games, phonics, phonemic awareness activities., and more!

L. Do the Phonemic Awareness activities found on the website, as well ~ <http://www.mrsjudyaraujo.com/phonemic-awareness-for-prek-k-and-1/>. Phonemic awareness improves a child's word reading, comprehension, and ability to spell.

M. Check out the entire www.mrsjudyaraujo.com website for future reference for sight words, a leveled book list, grade level reading expectations, and more!

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN!

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