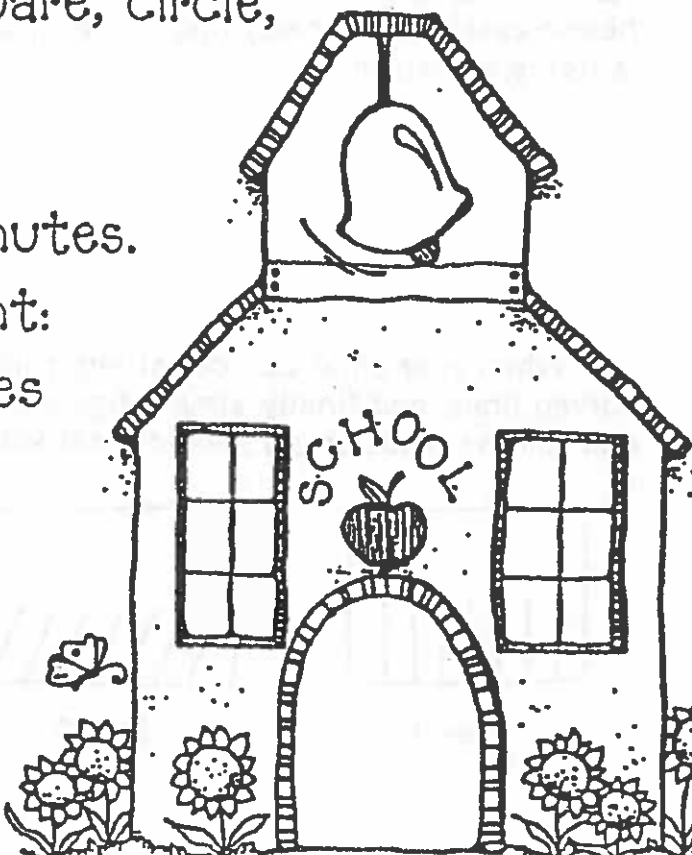


Important Skills in Preparation for Kindergarten

- ___ Write first name. (example: Emily or Kevin)
- ___ Identify the colors.
- ___ Count and recognize numbers 1-10.
- ___ One to one correspondence.
- ___ Letter names.
- ___ Rhyming.
- ___ Recognize shapes: square, circle,
triangle, rectangle.
- ___ Follow 3 directions.
- ___ Sit quietly for 15 minutes.
- ___ Fine motor development:
 - ♥ color within the lines
 - ♥ hold pencil, crayons,
scissors correctly.
 - ♥ cut on lines.



Cutting with Scissors

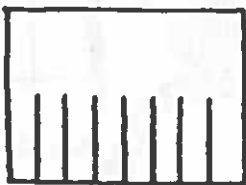


Cutting with scissors takes a great deal of finger coordination and control. This task can be a frustrating experience for young children. They need much help and practice. Get your child a pair of children's scissors with blunt tips. They are four to five inches long and are made to fit a young child's hand. You can buy an inexpensive pair wherever school supplies are sold. If your child is left-handed, be sure to get scissors marked "Leftie."

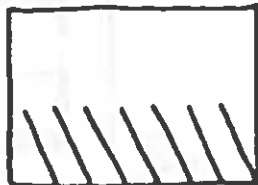
The first step is to show your child how to place his or her thumb and middle finger in the holes. The index finger "rests." Then show how to open and close the scissors so that they will cut. You may also need to hold the paper for your child at first. Later show your child how to hold and turn the paper as he or she cuts. Draw short, straight lines on paper with a dark crayon. Newspaper cut into 6-inch strips is fine for this task. Have your child cut along the lines to make fringes. Children enjoy using the fringes they have cut to make things, such as feathers for headdresses or Thanksgiving turkeys, Japanese lanterns, and so on.



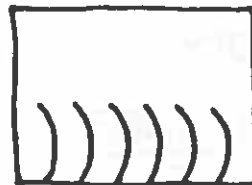
When your child can cut straight lines easily, have him or her cut slanted lines, then curved lines, and finally simple figures. A child who works for just short periods of time and follows these steps should meet with success.



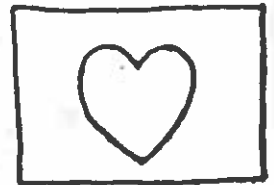
Step 1



Step 2



Step 3



Step 4

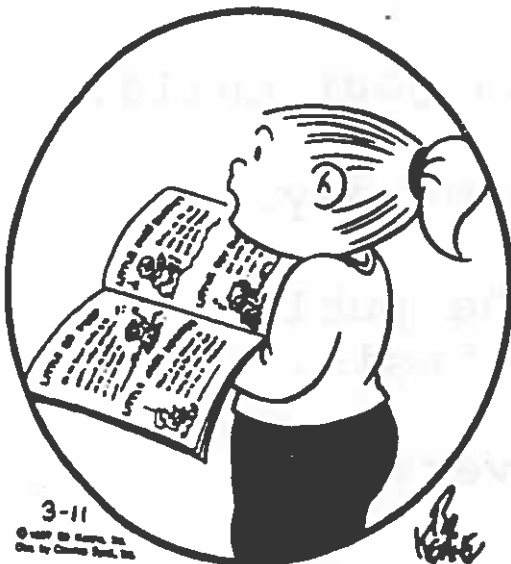
EARLY LITERACY

Making children literate is a joint project between parents and teachers. As parents of kindergartners, there are many things you can do to foster a love of reading and writing.

1. Let your child see you reading. Modeling is very powerful.
2. Read to your child daily. This develops a love of books.
3. Take your child to the library. Summer read-to-me programs and story times are available.
4. Get your child his/her own library card. (They need to be able to write their own name.)
5. Create a personal library for your child. Buy books as gifts.
6. Encourage educational television. Watch with your child and talk about it. This builds vocabulary.
7. Create a literacy center in your home. Stock a low shelf, table, or drawer with paper, pencils, markers, scissors, and glue. This encourages writing.
8. Write homemade books together. Have your child dictate a story about a trip and have them illustrate it.
9. Work on thank you notes, party invitations, vacation postcards, and birthday cards together. This makes writing meaningful.
10. HAVE FUN !

Tina Costantino-Lane, Rolling Ridge Reading Specialist

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



3-11
© 1987 by Keane, Inc.
Dist. by Chronicle Books, Inc.

"In nursery rhymes there sure
are a lot of people whose
first name is 'Little.'"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



3-13
© 1987 by Keane, Inc.
Dist. by Chronicle Books, Inc.

"I'm putting my autograph book
by my tooth for the Tooth
Fairy to sign."



10 WAYS TO GET YOUR CHILD TO READ AND READ AND READ

1. Let your child see you read and read and read.
2. Read to your child everyday.
3. Make reading for pleasure part of your daily routine.
4. Read to your child everyday.
5. Make books available to your child.
6. Read to your child everyday.
7. Talk about books with your child.
8. Read to your child everyday.
9. Take your child to the public' library on a regular basis.
10. Read to your child everyday.

Rolling Ridge Elementary

Incidental Learning

Incidental learning is available in the environment. Parents can teach children without having to spend time sitting with the child.

Field Trips:

- A. Take a walk, go to the store, post office, or the park.**
- B. Listen, look for, and discuss sounds, sights, smells and touch.**

Involve your child in daily household chores. Sorting and folding laundry, washing dishes, dusting and yard work.

Sorting and Folding Laundry: Teaches concepts such as classifications, texture, size, matching, counting, language, large and small motor control.

Doing the Dishes: Teaches counting, color, classification, size, temperature, air, water, language and develops small motor control.

Cleaning the House: Washing the walls, dusting, mopping and other activities help in the development of motor skills.

Yard Work: Teaches about plants, water concepts, weather, color classification, growth changes and develops large motor control.

Setting the Table: Emphasize shape position, left and right.

Guessing Games: "I see something (color and shape). What is it?"

Pick up Games: Teaches classification and counting. (Pick up objects out of place and put them in the proper place)



Rolling Ridge Elementary

Rhymes and Poems

Five Little Monkeys



Five little monkeys jumping on the bed, one fell down and bumped his head. Mama called the doctor and the doctor said, "No more monkeys jumping on the bed."

Four little monkeys jumping on the bed, one fell off and bumped his head... etc...ect... then repeat till you have no more monkeys.

Ten Little Indians

One little, two little, three little Indians,
four little, five little, six little Indians,
seven little, eight little, nine little Indians,
ten little Indian boys/girls

Then count backwards, practice using your fingers.

Five Little Speckled Frogs

Five green speckled frogs
Sitting on a speckled log,
Eating some delicious bugs...yum, yum!
One jumped into the pool
Where it was nice and cool
Then there were four green speckled frogs...ribbit..ribbit!



Keep repeating until you run out of frogs.

Manuscript

Aa Bb Cc Dd

Ee Ff Gg Hh

Ii Jj Kk Ll

Mm Nn Oo Pp

Qq Rr Ss Tt

Uu Vv Ww

Xx Yy Zz ?

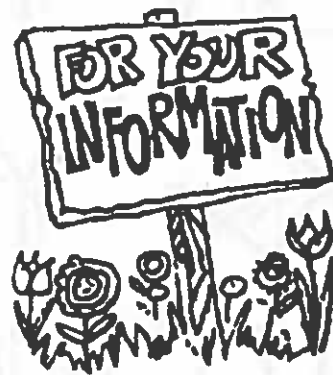
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Rolling Ridge Elementary

Counting and Number Concepts

Counting and number concepts should be emphasized at this time as they serve as a background for most of our everyday activities. They also help the child prepare for reading and math skills they will learn in school. Be sure to make these activities fun so your child will enjoy math.

- 1. Count with your child objects in the home: clothes, dishes, windows, doors, chairs, members of the family, etc.**
- 2. Play some family games such as cards, dominoes, etc.**
- 3. Set the table for the family. This will allow your child to count family members, plates, forks, spoons, and glasses.**
- 4. Use counting rhymes and songs.**
 - A. Ten Little Indians**
 - B. Five Little Speckled Frogs**
 - C. One, Two, Buckle My Shoe**
 - D. Five Little Monkeys**



Rolling Ridge Elementary

The Kindergarten Child

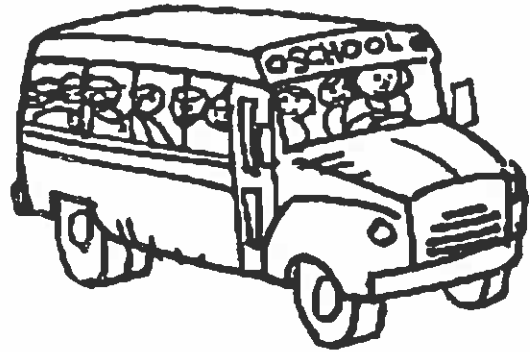
Social Emotional Development

Becoming poised, self-confident
Copies adult behavior, acts grown up
Aware of rules, defines them for others
Plays in groups of two to five children
Enjoys group play, circle games
Less combative, more controllable than at 4
Conscious of sex difference of playmate
Sensitive to ridicule
Harbors wounded feelings
Likes companionship with adults
Persistent, patterned
Has to be right
Talks about home, possessions, reveals family secrets
A visiting age, sociable
Accepts and respects authority, will ask permission
Growing competitiveness
May get high, wide, wild
Silly, giggling
Enjoys pointless riddles and jokes



Mental Development

Curious about everything
Seeks information of "how" and "why"
Ready for short trips into community
Knows name and address
Talks clear ideas
Self-centered in thinking
Likes to display his new knowledge and skill
Uses big words
Vocabulary about 2200 words
Likes to be busy making "something", industrious
Makes a plan before starting projects
Attention span: 12-28 minutes
Dramatizes house play on realistic level
Uses complete sentences readily
Counts ten objects
Assertive in use of language-- "I already know that"



Motor Development

Enjoys activities requiring hand skills

Draws a recognizable man

Learning how to tie a bow-knot

Skill and accuracy with simple tools

Can sit still for brief periods

Enjoys jumping, running, stunting

Adult like posture in throwing and catching a ball

Able to skip on both feet

Culmination of most basic coordination

Surging physical drives

Likes dancing--rhythmic, graceful

Sometimes roughhouses, fights

