

## Readiness



Children's readiness develops in many different ways.

Caregivers can help all children develop within the different levels.

Pre-reading skills can be introduced through books and billboards to license plates and environmental print. Children can recognize advertising symbols and media of all types. They can connect with familiar types and forms from Wal-Mart and Target to Toys R Us.

Children's names are the most important word to each of them. This is their first connection to letters, sounds and reading. Family member's names and loved ones are also important to see. Ways to help children's readiness includes labeling common items around their home. Some of these include TV, bed, chair, bed, telephone, sink, toilet and table. Music is a very important way for children to learn rhymes, stories or other important pre-reading concepts.

Pre-writing is a very fun and important step in developing children's readiness skills. Scribbling occurs first and then writing of all forms follows along soon after. Coloring, playing with playdoh, painting and cutting with scissors are all-important steps to recognize and develop fine motor skills.



### Hands on Activities for Pre-Kindergarten Children

#### Reading Readiness activities

Say and sing the alphabet slowly

Draw in a small thin amount of shaving cream spread over flat surface such as a table

Make letters with playdoh, pipe cleaners

Write letters in salt in a tray or a shoe box.

Look for pictures in a book and talk about them.

Discuss what they sound like when you say them and what letters they start with.

Read or listen to nursery rhymes often.

Play I spy in the car looking for letters on billboards or license plates.

Clapping parts of words into syllables.

Spell or build your child's names with letter blocks or magnets



#### Pre-writing activities

Zippering empty Ziploc bags with one hand using thumb and pointer finger

Lacing cards stringing spools of thread together with shoelaces

Using a hole punch to punch holes in paper

Practice using scissors with adult supervision

Color with colors, markers, large crayons and pencils

Screwing nuts and bolts together

Opening and closing clothespins with two hands and one hand

