



PRESCHOOL EDUCATION – KINDERGARTEN FOR FOUR- AND FIVE-YEAR-OLDS

Week of June 1, 2020

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Suggestions for Activities

Information for parents

Preschool education focuses on the overall development of all children. At 4 and 5 years of age, children develop in all five global areas at the same time: physical and motor, emotional, social, language and cognitive.

The aim is to offer suggestions for ideas, actions and activities to be carried out that allow children to:

- move (big and small movements)
- dance, etc.
- express what they're feeling; what they can do, etc.
- participate, cooperate, etc.
- talk, listen, sing, invent, etc.
- think, ask questions, look for answers, etc.

About the activities

The most important thing is to set up a routine that corresponds to your family's situation. A simple routine that is adapted to your child's age and needs is reassuring and can help maintain a pleasant atmosphere at home and prevent tantrums.

The morning routine (breakfast, brushing teeth, etc.), lunch, nap, dinner and the bedtime routine (bath, brushing teeth, story, etc.) are stable reference points that help children to situate themselves in time, encourage them to collaborate and help them to control their emotions and feel at ease.

PLAY is a child's main learning strategy. A child who plays is a child who learns.



How Much Does It Weigh?

Information for students

- Have you ever used a scale or a balance before? Maybe you've weighed ingredients when you were baking with your mom or dad. Maybe your doctor has asked you to stand on a scale to weigh you. There are many ways to measure things in our world and finding out how much something weighs is one of them. Today, you are going to make your own scale and find out how much some of the things in your home weigh.

Materials required

- Various small items from around the house (e.g. roll of tape, scissors, a shoe, a toy car, a cell phone, a small figurine, etc.)
- Coat hanger
- Yarn or string
- Building blocks or other small item that are similar in size (e.g. wood blocks, dry beans, markers, etc.) (If you don't have building blocks, you can attach a paper cup to each of the pieces of yarn and add your items to the cups.)
- Paper and pencil to record your predictions and your actual measurements

Instructions

Using a coat hanger and some yarn or string, you can create a scale that will allow you to weigh objects using non-standard units of measure, in this case, building blocks (or something else that can be used to substitute the building blocks, if you don't have any).

Tie two equal lengths of yarn to the hanger, one on each side and then hang it on a door knob.

Gather some items from around the house that you might like to weigh (and that can be tied to the yarn).

Decide with your child which building blocks should be used to measure. Talk to them about using only one or two building blocks (e.g. small or large blocks) to help make the units of measurement easy to count. In other words, if you use many sizes and shapes of building blocks, it will be hard to determine how many blocks each item weighs.

Tie a first building block to the yarn on one side. This could be a bridge-shaped one to make it easier to add and remove the blocks each time.

Encourage your child to predict how many blocks the item will weigh before you tie it on. Help your child write down their prediction. You may need to explain to your child that you are trying to get the two items to hang parallel to each other to make them equal.

Weigh the item by tying it to the yarn on the opposite side of the blocks and then adding blocks until the scale is balanced.

Record the actual weight beside the prediction and compare.



Try various sizes and shapes of items and see if your child's predictions become more accurate as they get used to the scale.



Information for parents

About the activity

Children could:

- help make the scale
- choose items to weigh
- predict how many blocks it will take to balance the scale
- record their predictions and measurements with help

Parents should:

- help their child make the scale
- help their child tie the items to the scale
- help their child make predictions and record their measurements

For more information:

<https://frugalfun4boys.com/lego-math-how-many-legos-does-it-weigh/>



Appendix – How Much Does It Weigh?

FrugalFun4Boys.com

object	guess	Actual
scissors	6	9 lbs 9 oz
jar of	8	12 lb 6 oz
roller tape	1	1 lb 11 oz
Printer	10	6 lb 6 oz
Painters	7	7 lb 6 oz
tape		





Sound Basketball

Information for students

- Have you ever thrown a ball at a basketball hoop or even a balled-up piece of paper into a garbage can? Today, you're going to play basketball with words.

Materials required

- Ball, balled-up paper, rolled-up socks, or anything that can be thrown at a target
- Basketball hoop, garbage can, laundry basket, bucket, or anything that can be used as a target
- List of words provided below and/or other words you might like to try

Instructions

Using whatever you have as a basketball and the list of words provided below, you are going to play with word sounds.

For every word your child gets correct, they get to throw the ball at the target. For every "hoop" they get, they earn 2 points. Your child wins when they achieve 10 points (or whatever you decide on together).

Decide together how far away the target should be.

Start by choosing a word from the list below. Tell the child: "Say ____." The child should repeat the word. Then tell the child: "Now say ____ again, but don't say the sound ____" (say the first or last sound of the word to omit, which is in parentheses in the list below). For example: The parent tells the child: "Say *form*." The child responds: "*form*." The parents then tells the child: "Now say *form* again, but don't say /m/." The child should respond, "*for*."

Whenever you see a letter inside the // marks, you say the letter sound "mmm" and NOT the letter "em."



Information for parents

About the activity

Children could:

- choose something to throw and something to use as a target
- tally up or count the points and keep track of them

Parents should:

- help their child decide how far away the target should be
- read the words to their child
- help their child keep track of the points
- remember that the focus is on the sounds their child hears and not the actual letter

If this is too difficult for your child, you can still play the game but instead of asking them to say the words without the sounds, just ask them to tell you the first or last sound of the words without the deletion.

If this is too easy for your child, challenge them to come up with words for which you can delete a sound. Even more of a challenge would be to ask your child to tell you the letters that make those sounds, but this is rather advanced and not what is expected of preschool children.



Appendix – Sound Basketball

Information

List of Words:

For(m)	(m)ouse	pap(er)	(p)addle
(d)art	lam(p)	migh(t)	(m)oon
Sea(l)	(b)oat	(b)oot	soa(p)
Coff(ee)	gree(n)	far(m)	(sh)irt
(ch)amp	(h)ippo	schoo(l)	(b)oil

