

Did you know...



Children with print awareness understand that print has different functions; for example, menus list food choices, a book tells a story, a sign can point to a favorite restaurant or warn of danger. Show children that print is all around them. Point it out when you are out in the community, or around the house.

Labels can help children identify where things belong. Chest of drawers can be labeled for socks, shirts, etc., with a picture of the item next to the word. You can also label tubs or boxes of toys to make cleanup easier and help your child sort and organize their belongings.



Here's how...

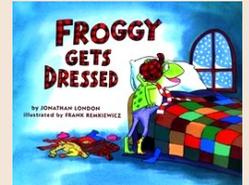


- ✦ Have a special box or drawer with materials that your child can use for writing and drawing.
- ✦ Create writing kits filled with different types of paper, envelopes, labels and stickers, greeting cards, note pads, and a variety of writing tools.
- ✦ Junk mail can be a treasure trove for your child. Save envelopes, labels, stickers, or small writing pads you receive to put in your child's writing kit.
- ✦ Provide lots of experiences for writing practice—let your child write with her finger in pudding or shaving cream on a flat surface, draw in sand or dry Jell-O in a flat box or pan, write letters with paint and a paint brush, use sidewalk chalk.

Read



Froggy Gets Dressed, by Jonathan London



Froggy is supposed to be taking a long winter's nap, but wants to go play in the snow instead. Children will relate to his eagerness to get outside and the problems Froggy has getting dressed for the cold. This book has fun sound effects that your child can do with you.

There is a series of Froggy books for children to enjoy...



Choosing Books



Kinds of books that develop print awareness:

- Books with lots of punctuation marks
- Books with signs, lists, labels, menus, charts, instructions, etc. as part of the illustrations
- Books in which characters are using print in different ways, such as writing a letter, or making a checklist
- Books with speech bubbles
- Recipe books
- Any book!

Talk



Play a game called “Name that clothing” as your child dresses for the day or for bed. Ask questions such as, “Can you find the clothes you put on your legs?” (or feet, arms, head, etc.)

Write



This website has a variety of activities to help your preschooler learn to write. It is most effective to keep these activities fun and a natural part of the day, such as making a grocery list or practicing their name.

www.first-school.ws/theme/handwriting.htm

Play



Grandma’s Glasses

These are grandma’s glasses.
(Make circles around eyes)

This is grandma’s hat.
(Cup hands and place on head)

And this is the way she folds her hands

And puts them in her lap.
(Fold hands and put them in your lap)

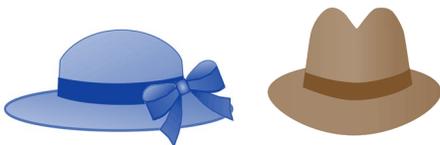
(Say with a deep voice:)

These are grandpa’s glasses.
(Make circles around eyes)

This is grandpa’s hat.
(Pretend to put on a hat)

And this is the way he folds his arms
(Cross arms and fold)

Just like that!



Sing

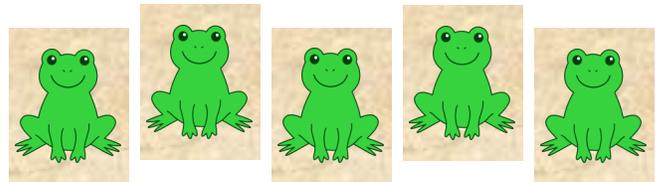


Five Little Speckled Frogs

Five little speckled frogs,
Sitting on a speckled log,
Eating the most delicious bugs, yum, yum!

One jumped into the pool,
Where it was nice and cool.
Now, there are four green speckled frogs,
glub, glub!

(Repeat verses with one frog jumping off the log in each verse, until you get to zero)



To hear this song go to
<http://tinyurl.com/qh7b2pp>

At your library...



Don’t have access to a computer? Many libraries do not require a library card in order to use the computers. Some even offer free computer classes.