

Did you know...



Vocabulary is knowing the names of things, and is developed as you help your child build words out of letters and letter sounds. Most children enter school knowing between 3,000 and 5,000 words. Developing a strong vocabulary helps your child as they learn to read.

When you think about it, you know that you are reading a word correctly if you have heard it before. The more words children hear, the more ready they will be to make connections between sounding out words and knowing they are pronouncing them correctly.

The best way to help your child build vocabulary is to talk and read with them.

Here's how...

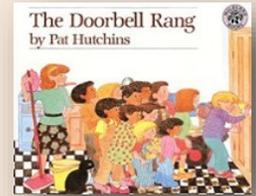


- ❖ Speak in the language that is most comfortable for you. Talk about the stories and the pictures in the books.
- ❖ Choose a quiet spot for you and your child to read aloud 15 – 20 minutes each day. Children's books have more rare words than everyday conversations, and more than even children's television programs.
- ❖ Talk to your child about what is going on around you. Talk about how things work, feelings, and ideas. Listen when your child talks to you.
- ❖ Look for books that teach concepts, such as numbers, colors, shapes, opposites, etc. These are things your child should know before they begin kindergarten (see *Choosing Books*).

Read



***The Doorbell Rang,* by Pat Hutchins**



This classic read-aloud picture book about friendship, sharing, and cookies can also be used to introduce basic math concepts to young children.

Pat Hutchins is the celebrated creator of numerous award-winning books for children. *The Doorbell Rang* was named a Notable Book for Children by the American Library Association.

Some other books by Pat Hutchins:

Rosie's Walk

Titch

Don't Forget the Bacon!

The Wind Blew

Ten Red Apples

Choose Books



More "concept" books:

Dear Deer: A Book of Homophones, by Gene Barretta

First the Egg, by Laura Vaccaro Seeger

The Icky Bug Counting Book, by Jerry Pallotta

Opposnakes: A Lift-the-Flap Book About Opposites, by Salina Yoon

Over and Under the Snow, by Kate Messner

The Shape of Things, by Dayle Ann Dodds

How Many Snails? A Counting Book, by Paul Giganti, Jr.

White Rabbit's Colors, by Alan Baker

Talk



Kindergarteners should be comfortable with counting and grouping numbers up to 20. Help your child count collections of things around the house: pennies, buttons, dry beans, etc. Ask her to count in different ways, such as by groups of two or five.

Write



Cutting paper with scissors can help strengthen the little muscles needed to hold and guide a pencil. Ask your child to cut out 12 circles from some scrap paper or junk mail to represent cookies. Help her share the cookies evenly between two friends, then three, and so on.

Play



Some Counting Rhymes

Skip Counting — Evens

If I start with zero (*Hold up fist*)
And jumped to two, I'd be a hero.

(*Raise two fingers*)

And four and six and eight and ten

(*Raise fingers accordingly*)

And then I'd start it all again.

Skip Counting — Odds

If I start with number one (*Hold up one finger*)
And skip the next one, just for fun,

(*Hold up 2 more fingers*)

I'd land on number three, then skip
To five and seven and nine, then quit.

(*Raise fingers accordingly*)

A number chart can help with counting, or skip counting:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |

Sing



The Ants Go Marching



The ants go marching one by one.
Hoorah! Hoorah!

The ants go marching one by one.
Hoorah! Hoorah!

The ants go marching one by one;
The little one stops to suck his thumb,
And they all go marching down into the ground
To get out of the rain.
Boom, boom, boom, boom!

Repeat:

Two; little one stops to tie his shoe...

Three; little one stops to climb a tree...

Four; little one stops to shut the door...

Five; little one stops to take a dive...

Six; little one stops to pick up sticks...

Seven; little one stops and looks to heaven...

Eight; little one stops to roller-skate...

Nine; little one stops to check the time...

Ten; little one stops to shout, "THE END!"

Hear the tune and see a video at: bussongs.com

At your library...



Your library, in cooperation with the Idaho Commission for Libraries, now offers free "storytimes online" every day of the year. Each day features an online book to read with your child, as well as songs, rhymes, fingerplays, videos, crafts, and other activities that you can access from a computer or Smartphone.

DayByDayID.org
STORYTIMES ONLINE