

Session 3: Read for FUN!

Introduction: Welcome everyone to Ready, Set, Kindergarten! week three. Does anyone remember what we talked about last week? Did anyone sing songs together or maybe read a poetry book?

To the adults (optional if you think you need to explain the program again): Over the next six weeks, we will be teaching you easy ways to help get your child ready for Kindergarten while still having fun, sharing stories and singing songs. During each session we will be focusing on a different readiness skill and also introducing skills that your child will need in Kindergarten like learning to sit and listen, raising hands to ask questions, and working together with classmates.

Let me now give you a quick overview of what you can expect in each session. I will be sharing books, songs, rhymes, and activities with the kids throughout each session much like in a traditional library storytime. It is important that you, the grownups, stay engaged throughout because these sessions are just as much for you as they are for your kids and I will be giving you tips throughout. So I hope that you are here to learn and have fun too! At the end of each session, each kid will get a free book to take home and keep. Sound good?

Welcome song: Talk, sing, read, write, play (<https://youtu.be/jV1bjNW-VIU>)

To the adults: This week's theme is READING. READING *with* children is the single most important way to help them get ready to read themselves. Children who love books become stronger readers. We have chosen books, songs and rhymes that help foster children's LOVE of reading. One way to make sure your kids love reading is to choose books they'll love—books about their interests and books with funny characters are a good place to start.

Song: Let's All Clap (https://youtu.be/_MDSPTqfR40)

To the adults: Try to read with your child every day. Pick a time when you and your child are relaxed. Many parents read to children when they first wake up, at bedtime, breakfast time, or while they are on the bus or Max. There is no right way--do what works for you. If you make reading part of your daily routine, your child will learn to look forward to that time with you.

Picture Book: *The Library Book*

(Alternate book: *Nino Wrestles the World*, by Yuri Morales)

To the adults: Choose books that make you and your child laugh. Kids will ask to be read funny books over and over. Vary the tone and pitch in your voice when you read—ham it up! Children who love books become stronger readers. So make it fun!

Action Song: Jump Up, Turn Around (Jim Gill Sings Moving Rhymes for Modern Times)

Session 3: Reading

Picture Book: Chicken Storytime (Alternate: Lola Loves Stories)

To the adults: Children learn more from books when they are actively engaged in the conversation!

Ask open ended questions like “What do you think will happen next?” and “What do you see?” Books with imaginative storylines help children feel comfortable guessing or imagining what might happen next since anything is possible!

Fingerplay: I Had a Little Turtle (<https://youtu.be/e9bMjZboMnY>)

To the adults: Choose books that your child can narrate. Wordless or near wordless books are excellent because they encourage children to practice observing, describing, and talking. Let your child tell you the story in a wordless book. Ask open-ended questions like “What’s happening on this page?”

Picture Book: Du Iz Tak? By Carson Ellis (Alternate: Goodnight Gorilla or Flashlight by Lizi Boyd)

To the adults: Today we focused on the practice of shared **READING**, which gets children excited about books. Remember to read with your child every day, and to keep your reading time fun and interactive. You can share stories rhymes, and songs as a part of everyday activities.

Closing song or rhyme: Wave your Knees (tune of Twinkle, Twinkle)

Wave your knees and wave your hips
Blow a kiss with finger tips
Wave your elbows, wave you toes
Wave your tongue and wave your nose
Wave up high and wave down low
Storytime is over, it’s time to go

Activity: Make a Character Puppet

As you read the books in this session, ask the children about the characters in the book. What do they look like? Are they funny? Do they like them? Why? Why not? Explain that they will be able to make a puppet character using paper plates, craft sticks and various craft materials. Ask them to design their favorite character from one of the books you read, or from another book, or they can use their imagination and make up a character.

You will need:

- Chicken die cuts
- Large Craft Sticks
- Tape
- Feathers and pipe cleaners

Giveaway Book: *Lion, Lion* or *Niño Wrestles the World*