

## Session 5: Play

### Session 5—Play/Math

**Introduction:** Welcome everyone to Ready, Set, Kindergarten! week five. Does anyone remember what we talked about last week? Did you make a family mail box at home?

**To the adults (optional if you think you need to explain the program again):** This week and next week we will continue to teach you easy ways to help get your child ready for Kindergarten while still having fun, sharing stories and singing songs. During each session we are 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"](#)

**To the adults:** Today we are going to look at a fun early literacy practice: **PLAY**. Children learn a lot about the world, particularly language, as they play and talk with grown-ups and other children. We are going to play with **math** today! Play is a wonderful way to explore early math concepts with young children—playing with puzzles helps children learn about shapes, which is really beginning geometry, and counting and stacking help with both spatial awareness and number skills!

**Song: Name Song – “Here, Here”**

**Tune: “Skip to My Lou”**

Here, here, we’re all here

Here, here, we’re all here

Here, here, we’re all here

We’re all here in storytime.

Hello, [Name], how are you?

Hello, [Name], how are you?

Hello, [Name], how are you?

We’re so glad to see you!

*Repeat until every child’s name is said*

**Circle Book: *Grandma’s Tiny House* by JaNay Brown-Wood**

**(Alternate Book: *Stack the Cats* by Susie Ghahremani)**

**To the adults: Play counting games.** Use a tissue paper box or shoe box to create a bank or treasure chest, and collect fun things like rocks, interesting buttons, or coins! Count them together!

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### Fingerplay or flannel: Five Green And Speckled Frogs

Five green and speckled frogs  
Sat on a speckled log  
Eating some most delicious bugs  
Yum, yum!  
One jumped into the pool  
Where it was nice and cool  
Then there were four green speckled frogs  
Glub, glub!  
*Count down from 5 to 1*

**Shapes Picture Book: *Wednesday***, by Anne Bertier  
(Alternate: ***There's a Bug on My Book*** by John Himmelman)

**To the adults: Playing with shapes** helps kids get ready for math AND reading. Since letters are made up of different lines and shapes, it is important for children to play with shapes, like blocks and puzzles. Studies have also shown that children who play with a variety of shapes in their toys learn new words and concepts faster.

**Measuring book: *Actual Size*** by Steve Jenkins  
(Alternate book: ***Tickle Monster***, by Edouard Manceau )

### Counting finger play with Spanish lyrics: Ten Little Fingers / Diez Deditos (*To the Tune of Ten Little Indians*)

**To the adults:** Take a ruler with you to the park and measuring in feet and inches all of the things around you. (trees, rocks, grass, benches etc.) Measuring is also about words like BIG, LITTLE, TALL, SMALL, HIGH, and LOW. Using those words helps kids learn about math!

### Action song rhyme: Five Little Hotdogs

Five little hotdogs frying in a pan  
The grease got hot and one went "BAM!"  
(Countdown to zero)

**To the adults: Play with Math!** Today we talked about the early literacy of practice of play. Play is not just fun, but it is how children learn and understand new concepts and ideas. Talk to your child during play time, let your child play with a variety of toys, and incorporate writing, matching, sorting, counting, and reading materials into your child's play. It also a fun way to learn math!

### Song: Wave High, Wave Low

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### ***Activity: Making Bead Necklaces by Counting***

Give students pony beads, yarn (cut to necklace-sized lengths), and dice. Talk about how counting helps us keep track of what we see in the world, from what we have in our homes to the books we read with our families. Students and parents can take turns to roll the dice to see how many beads of one color (for example, yellow) they should put on the yarn. As necessary, pass the dice to your neighbor so they can roll to see how many beads of another color (for example, pink) they should put on the yarn. Continue until the children are finished with their necklace.

You'll Need:

- Pony beads
- Dice (Main gets 12; MS gets 9; OX gets 6)
- Yarn (pre-cut)

Put out TFT STEM toys and felt pieces for additional pattern, counting, and sorting play.

[Giveaway Book: Not A Box](#)