

# First Trimester Homework/play Ideas

Please keep this page for activities until the first report cards.

## Developmental Activities:

1. Practice tying your shoes, snapping, zipping, fastening a belt and buttoning clothes. Practice getting dressed by yourself. Are your shoes on the correct feet? Do you know which side is left and which is right?
2. Clean an area of your room. Put away toys and clothing where they belong. Setting a regular pick-up time is a good way to help develop responsibility and the ability to organize.
3. Do a job or chore ... empty the trash, feed the pet, make your bed, or match socks from the dryer. Complete any activity the grown-ups in your family would like you to learn. Being responsible for regular household tasks teaches reliability.
4. Follow a simple boxed or home recipe ... bake cookies, brownies, cake, fruit salad, etc. with a grown-up. Cooking a snack or helping with a meal introduces following step-by-step directions, measuring, temperature and time.
5. Practice saying your first and last name. Say your name five times. Practice saying your parents' first and last names. Say their names five times each. Practice siblings' names after mastering yours and your parents' names.
6. Arrange household items into categories to build organizational skills. Put away silverware, groceries, sort buttons, etc.
7. Grow plants in a pot or help with gardening. Gardening skills stimulate curiosity and a sense of wonder.
8. Learn to listen. Follow one direction at a time. Can you follow 2 - step directions? Can you remember 3 things to do that you are told? (Example: Go brush your teeth, choose a book and climb into bed.)
9. Help someone, care for someone or a pet, or share something with someone. The ability to work with others and helping, caring and sharing are vital skills.
10. Stick to a schedule this week. Going to bed early enough to get a good night's sleep can contribute to physical and mental health as well as establish a healthy bedtime routine. 10 to 12 hours of sleep is recommended for children in Kindergarten.

## Math Activities:

1. Count to 20. Practice verbally 3 times. (By year's end, we should be counting to 100. As your child is ready, you can increase the count.)
2. Identify numbers to 10 or higher ... even when they are all mixed-up. Begin writing your numbers to 10. Memorize the number poems for correct formation when writing your numbers.
3. Practice identifying shapes. Do you recognize a circle, square, rectangle, triangle, diamond, oval, hexagon, pentagon, octagon, sphere, cone, cylinder and pyramid? Draw the four basic shapes (circle, square, rectangle, triangle).
4. Say your telephone number 3 times. Write it once on paper. Practice calling someone - use phone manners. Be sure to press the numbers yourself. Tell the special person your phone number (example: grandma) and have them call you back.
6. Say your address 5 times - number and street. Copy it once onto paper.

7. Practice counting pennies, buttons, Lego's, spoons, or other fun objects. How many blocks (or whatever objects you are counting) do you have? Draw a picture of the object you are counting and then write the number on a piece of paper to record your answer. For example, if you counted 23 blocks, just draw a block and write 23 on the paper:

8. Practice math words ... Get some objects and tell which group has more, less; greater, fewer; line up objects and tell which one is first, last; in front, behind; find objects to show which are thick, thin; long, short; empty, full; heavy, light. Draw a picture and have a grown-up help you label your illustration showing the math words you practiced to record your work.

9. Physically practice directional words: over, under; up, down; left, right; outside, inside; above, below; on, off; in, out; first, middle, last; through, beneath, next to, in between, around, etc.

### **Language Arts Activities:**

1. Visit the Public Library and check out books or find a book at home and have someone read a story to you. Retell the story back to the person who read you the story. Remember to include all of the characters in the story, where the story took place (setting), the sequence in detail of what happened at the beginning, middle and the end of the story, and what you learned from the story or what the story is about.

2. Say the letters in your first name and practice writing your first name using a pencil (3 times). Remember the first letter of your name is an upper case letter and the rest of the letters are lower case.

3. Say your birthday 5 times - say the month and the date. Write it once on paper.

4. Say the days of the week (Begin with Sunday) and months of the year in order. Practice 3 times each.

5. Choose a color (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, black, pink, white). Write the color word in its crayon color or marker color on a piece of paper. Draw something that color.

6. Practice identifying the ABC's. Learn the upper case and lower case letters. Cut out the flashcards sent home. Mix the letters up and say their names. Match upper case and lower case letters. Practice writing the letters. Play letter concentration (memory game) or any letter game you may have at home.

7. Practice the beginning sounds of the consonants and the short sound of the vowels. Practice the chants or songs associated with the sounds that we are learning.

8. Memorize the nursery rhymes we are practicing. Practice finding the rhyming words in the poems. Practice any rhyming activities. A Memory rhyming game is fun to match rhyming pictures. It is ok if the words are not real words. It can be fun to make nonsense rhymes, particularly with longer words. For example, computer—just change the first sound—homputer, womputer, zomputer, etc.

9. Practice pretend reading (memorization or telling the story) as you track words from left to right and from top to bottom in books. Identify the front cover, title page, and back cover, and know the jobs of the author and illustrator.

10. Practice Phonemic Awareness Activities: clapping syllables (kin-der-gar-ten), producing rhyming words (bat-cat), counting words in a short sentence that the grown-up says. Practice hearing the first sound in a word. Parent says, "cat", the child says the sound /k/. Or the opposite, parent says /k/ (pause) -at, and the child puts it together to say, "cat".