



Links to Learning

SEPTEMBER INTERMEDIATES

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

This month, your child will learn to differentiate between numbers and letters, repeat patterns of three, and identify personal characteristics.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child.

- Take a walk outdoors with your child. Point to letters and numbers on street signs and ask your child questions. "What letter is that?", "What number is that?" or "Is that a number or a letter?"
- Prompt your child to talk about himself by using personal characteristics. "What color is your hair?" or "What color are your eyes?"
- Clap a simple pattern for your child and see if he can repeat it. Try several different patterns. If your child is able, let him clap a pattern for you to follow.





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OCTOBER INTERMEDIATES

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

This month, your child will learn to whisper, name basic three-dimensional shapes, describe how objects are similar and different, and name and explore the five senses.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child.

- Hand your child two objects, for example, a tennis ball and a block. Ask your child how they are similar and different. Prompt your child to describe the shapes of the objects.
- Give your child a healthy snack. As your child is eating, ask sensory questions. "What do you smell?" or "What do you taste?"
- Sit in a circle with your child and at least two other individuals. Whisper a short phrase to one child. That child then whispers the phrase to the next child and so on. The last child in the circle says the phrase aloud to hear how the phrase has changed over time.





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NOVEMBER INTERMEDIATES

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

This month, your child will describe the size of various objects, listen to different types of music, and learn about healthy sleep, food and exercise habits.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child.

- Hand your child two different sized objects, for example, an orange and a quarter. Ask your child to describe the two objects. Pay attention to the use of size vocabulary.
- Play different genres of music and ask your child to describe each song. "Is this music fast or slow?" or "Do you like this song? Why or why not?"
- Involve your child when planning meals. Ask your child, "What is a healthy food that we should eat for dinner?" or "Can you name three vegetables?"





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DECEMBER INTERMEDIATES

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

This month, your child will learn to use sequence vocabulary (i.e. first, second), recognize the meaning of holidays, and identify how families' customs and traditions are similar or different.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child.

- Ask your child to explain the steps she takes to wash her hands. Listen for sequence vocabulary.
- Take a drive with your child. Look for and identify different holiday decorations in your community.
- Ask your child about your family's customs and traditions. "What foods do we eat during the holidays?" or "What movie do we watch during the holidays?" Share additional details to add to your child's understanding.





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JANUARY INTERMEDIATES

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

This month, your child will continue using sequence vocabulary (i.e. first, second), name basic shapes, and learn about farms and farm animals.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child.

- Have your child draw a picture of a farm. Ask her to tell you about the picture. "Can you tell me a story about the picture?" Listen for sequence vocabulary.
- Ask your child what she would do if she lived on a farm. "What would you grow on your farm?" or "What animals would you have?"
- Look through books with your child and ask her to point out different shapes. Prompt responses by asking, "Can you find an oval in this photo?"





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FEBRUARY INTERMEDIATES

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

This month, your child will learn to count to 30, recognize numbers 1-10, and identify animals and their habitats.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child.

- Name an animal and ask your child where that animal lives. "Where do lions live?" or "Where do fish live?" Reverse the question by asking, "What animals live in the zoo?" or "What animals live in the ocean?"
- Provide your child with a stack of index cards and mini stickers. Help your child write the numbers 1 to 10 on the left half of the cards. Ask your child to place the correct number of stickers to the right side of each card.
- Ask your child to look for items in your house that have numbers on them; for example, telephones, remote controls and calendars. Point to a number and see if your child can identify it.





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MARCH INTERMEDIATES

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

This month, your child will add together two groups of objects, learn about various forms of transportation, and understand the meaning of traffic lights.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child.

- Go for a drive with your child and point to different types of vehicles; for example, a train, car or bicycle. Ask your child to name the vehicle.
- Play the traffic light game with your child. Shout out green, yellow or red and have him move quickly when hearing "green," move slowly when hearing "yellow" and completely stop when hearing "red." Start the game by shouting, "Green light!"
- Give your child two groups of toys or snacks. Ask him to count the total number of items.





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APRIL INTERMEDIATES

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

This month, your child will discuss characters in a story, learn to count to 40, and mimic sounds in nature.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child.

- Read a book with your child. Talk about the main character and ask your child why the character did or did not do certain things.
- Look through a sales circular or catalog with your child. Ask him to find and circle numbers from 1 to 40. Help your child count how many numbers he found.
- Go for a walk with your child. Tell him to listen for different nature sounds; for example, birds chirping, frogs croaking or ducks quacking. Ask him to mimic the sounds he hears.





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MAY INTERMEDIATES

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This month, your child will discuss major events in a story, learn about the metamorphosis of a caterpillar into a butterfly, and learn about the concept of speed.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child.

- When you read to your child, ask questions about the main characters and key events in the story. Stop partway through the story and ask what your child thinks will happen next. Ask why she thinks that event will occur.
- Take a picture walk through *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle. Without reading the text, allow your child to look at the pictures and tell you what is happening on each page. Then read the book aloud to your child and discuss the story.
- Go for a walk with your child. Point out examples of speed or movement; for example, vehicles, animals and pedestrians. Ask your child to describe the object or person's speed.





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JUNE INTERMEDIATES

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

This month, your child will compare and contrast objects by using physical attributes (color, shape, size, weight), explore rocks in nature, and express her own wants and needs.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child.

- Give your child a small bucket and take a walk with her. Ask her to collect a few rocks and place them in the bucket. Afterwards, ask your child to compare the texture of the rocks.
- Ask your child questions to help her explain her thoughts and ideas. "What would you like to eat?" or "What would you like to wear today?"
- Hand your child two of her favorite stuffed animals. Ask your child, "How are the animals the same?" and "How are the animals different?" Listen for adjectives describing color, shape, size and weight.





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JULY INTERMEDIATES

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This month, your child will talk about events using past and future tense, learn to write his first name in print, and memorize and sing patriotic songs.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child.

- Ask your child about past and future events. For instance, "What did you do in school today?" or "What are you going to do when we go to the playground?" Listen for appropriate use of the past and future tense.
- Discuss your family's Fourth of July traditions with your child. Ask him to teach you a patriotic song he learned in class.
- Allow your child to decorate a sign for his bedroom door. Have him write his first name on the sign.





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AUGUST INTERMEDIATES

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

This month, your child will follow multi-step directions, learn to count to 50, and identify a variety of foods from different food groups.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child.

- Play an advanced game of Simon Says with multi-step commands. Instead of saying "Simon says touch your toes," say "Simon says touch your toes, jump up and down, and then clap." See if your child can remember and complete the multi-step directions.
- Name a food group. Ask your child to name as many foods as she can in that food group. If needed, give an example to get her started.
- Cut a watermelon in half. Ask your child to pick out and count 50 seeds.

