

## Card Memory

A matching game with a deck of cards.

- Put all of the cards face down on the floor or table
- Take turns picking two cards to turn over
- Match cards that have the same number or face value



## Guess What I See!

- Pick an object and say, "Guess what I see."
- Your child has to ask a question like "What colour is it?" and you tell them the colour
- Your child can ask as many questions as they need to until they guess the object
- Then it is their turn!



## Textures Around Us

Your child may enjoy finding different textures.

Ask him to find something...

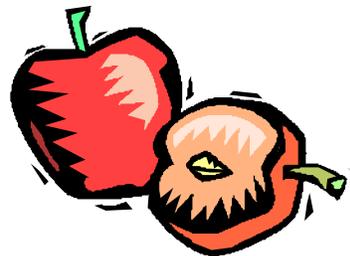
- Soft - a piece of fur
- Rough - a piece of firewood
- Smooth - a mirror
- Scratchy - sandpaper

Talk about how the textures are different.

## A is for Apple

Sing the alphabet with your child and have them think of a word that starts with that letter.

A is for apple  
B is for bear...



## Do You Remember?



How well does your child understand and remember?

- Read a rhyme or short story with your child
- Then ask him a few questions about the story

How well does he remember?

## Memory Minute

How good is your child's memory?

- Pick ten things from around your house and put them in a bag
- Lay the things on the table and give your child one minute to look at them and say what each thing is
- Now put them back in the bag and see how many she can remember



## Memorizing

Have your child memorize something.

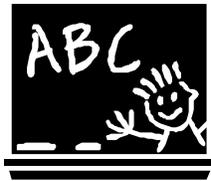


You can start with...

- His full name
- His phone number
- His house number and address

Or you can have him memorize a favourite nursery rhyme or poem that he knows.

## Point To a Letter



You can teach your child to recognize the letters of the alphabet.

- When you are reading a story, point to a letter and tell her the name of the letter.
- Ask her if she can find another one of the same letters on the page. Start at A and work your way through the letters of the alphabet until she knows them all.

## Writing Your Name

Kids love to write their name! It makes them feel big!

- Write your child's name on a piece of paper
- Give him a pencil and let him trace over the letters of his name
- When he is ready, he can try writing on his own



## Letters, Letters

Teach your child the letters of the alphabet by making letters.

You can...

- Cut letters out of newspapers or magazines and glue them onto cardboard
- Make letters by cutting them out of felt or paper
- Or you can buy wooden or magnetic letters at the store

## Reading Corner

Having a cozy place to read books is a great way to encourage your child to read.



Here is what you can do...

- Find a shelf or corner where you can put all your child's books
- Put down some cushions or a chair where you can both cuddle up and

**Read! Read! Read!**

## Reading

Here are some things to try while you are reading with your child...



- Look at the pictures and talk about what's happening
- Follow along with your finger as you read so she will learn to connect what she hears with what she sees
- Get your child to "read" the story to you once she knows it well enough

## Greeting Cards

Kids love to get and give greeting cards. You can buy cards at the store or you can make your own. Here's how...



- Fold a piece of paper in half
- Have your child write their message in the card. They may need help with the words.
- Get creative - decorate the card with drawings, or cut pictures and words out of magazines...

## Labeling

You can teach your child new words by putting labels on things around your house. Your child will learn how to spell many new words.

- Take a piece of paper
- Write the word on it
- Tape the paper to the thing

You can use your Aboriginal language too.



## Drawing and Colouring

Kids love to scribble and those first scribbles on paper (or the wall!?) are the start of their writing.

- Give your child paper and crayons to scribble, draw and colour with.
- Hang up his "artwork" so everyone can admire it!



## Write Together

Show your child that reading and writing can be a lot of fun.

Write...

- A shopping list
- Thank you notes
- Poems
- Letters to family
- Stories about her day-to-day experiences



## Be a Role Model

The best way to show your child that reading is important is for him to see you reading! So be a role model!

You can read:

- Books and magazines
- Newspapers
- Letters
- Signs



Talk about what you are reading. Parents who read have kids who learn to read.

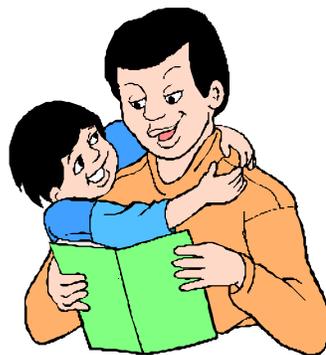
## Relax

Learning to read and write is different for every child.

It will happen but it takes time - just like learning to talk and walk.

Your child needs your help.

Relax and have fun!



## Make a Book

Make a book with your child.

Use construction paper, markers, and pictures from your photo albums or from magazines.

Have your child add his own drawings.

Start out with a small project that won't take more than 15 minutes.

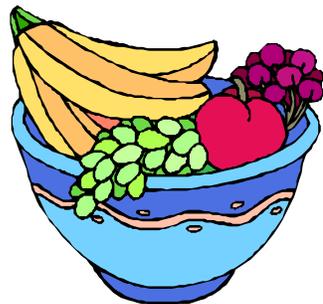


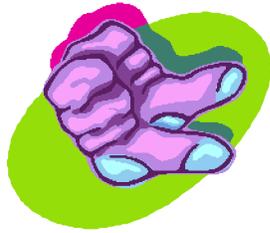
## Favourite Food Book

Make a book with all your child's favourite foods in it.

Have your child draw the pictures and you write the words.

You can also cut pictures out of old magazines.





## Sally Sock

Try this game to build your child's imagination and memory.

You start off by saying, "I see that Sally Sock is wearing a \_\_\_\_\_." Fill in the blank with a piece of clothing.

Ask your child to repeat the line and add a new piece of clothing. The game ends when one person forgets an item of clothing on the list.

## Maps

Make a map of your community or neighborhood with your child. Include places like the park, school, stores, church, family and friends' houses.



Ask your child to move a toy person, car or snowmobile around the map by following your directions. Then get her to give the directions and you do the "driving."

## Writing Bag

You can make a neat bag for your child to practice their letters.

You will need:

- a clear, plastic Ziploc bag
- some chocolate pudding!

Put some pudding in the bag and seal it tight. Now let your child have fun using his finger to make the letters of the alphabet.

## Tell Family Stories

Your child loves to listen to family stories. Tell her stories about:

- When she was born
- When you were young

Have elders and grandparents tell stories about how it was when they were growing up.

