

♥ Welcome to Kindergarten



A Note from Your Teachers

Congratulations! You are ready for Kindergarten! Your journey at Christ the King has just begun. We are so happy to have you as a part of our family. We have picked out some fun books for you to read this summer. Take a look through this packet to find some summer activities. Remember, reading for fun helps you learn new words and discover new things.

We look forward to seeing you in August!
-Mrs. Clark & Mrs. Ray

Optional Summer Math Practice

Work through the Summer Skills Math Sharpener workbook. These will be provided by CKS. If you prefer to complete a free, online math program assignment, you may contact Dr. Bosco (lbosco@cks.org).

Summer Reading Practice

The following pages contain some ways for you to work with your child with reading as you prepare for the beginning of Kindergarten. These are not skills that must be mastered before entering Kindergarten. They are simple suggestions for you to try with your child at home. Remember to keep it fun and foster the love of learning something new. The most important thing is to read every day with your child.

Letters:

It might be helpful to purchase some magnetic letters that are about one inch in size. Check the letters before you purchase – sometimes the “t”, “q”, “g” and “a” look more like typed text than the print the children learn in school, which can be confusing. Letters can be purchased at Lake Shore Learning or on their website (lakeshorelearning.com). There are two good options: the red/blue 1 inch letters and the 2 inch foam letters. You can purchase magnetic letters at most retail stores as well.

Reading Reminders:

Please continue to read aloud to your child daily. Read carefully and interact with the book. Ask simple questions about the characters and where it takes place. If your child knows a few words, let him/her read those. It's okay if your child pretends to read or recites memorized passages. Your child is still learning important skills such as how a book is read – from front to back, left to right, and by turning the pages. Help your child when he/she has trouble – always ward off frustration. Above all, keep it positive! There will be a magical point when your child puts everything together and starts reading. Learning to read starts with talk, so talk with your child often, share stories, use new words, ask open-ended questions, and keep up the conversation.

Name Activities:

Name Puzzles: Write your child's name on a piece of paper. Cut the letters apart and put into an envelope. Write your child's name on the envelope.

Encourage your child to put the letter pieces back to match his/her name. Talk about the letters. Have your child identify the letters. Point to an "a".

Making Names with Magnetic Letters: Put the letters of your child's name in a small bag. Have him/her assemble the letters and insist on left-to-right construction of the name. Add the letters for his/her last name when the first name is mastered.

Working with Letters:

Match the letters in the bag: Place a few letters in the bag at a time (start with letters in your child's name). Place multiple sets of the letters in the bag. Try to stick with no more than 10 letters at a time. Help your child find all of the k's and place them together. Then find all of the m's and place them together. Work on saying the name of the letters as they are lined up from left to right.

Match letters to an alphabet chart: To find an alphabet chart, go to Google Images and print one that you like. Place letters that your child knows well in the baggie. Help your child match the letters in the bag by placing them on the alphabet chart.

Sort by color: If you have different color letters, sort them by matching colors. Help your child name the letters that are red (lined up from left to right). Repeat with the other colors.

Match upper case and lower case letters: Put matching upper and lower case letters in the bag. Work with your child to find the matches.

Remember to line up the letters from left to right. You can also use the alphabet chart to match.

Name letters from left to right: Have your child place the letters in a line and name them as they line them up. Encourage speedy recall from left to right.

Working with Letters, continued:

Name a word that begins with that letter: Pick a letter from the bag, have your child name the letter. Then talk about what sound that letter makes. Have fun thinking of words that start with that letter/sound.

Name the letter that begins that word: Say a word and help your child find the letter that makes the sound at the beginning of the word. For example: “Find the letter that you hear at the beginning of *car*.” Your child should locate the “c”.

Find the letter that makes that sound: Help your child find a letter in your environment (while driving) that makes a particular sound. For example: “Find the letter that says /b/” (make the “b” sound).

Working with Sounds:

Clapping Syllables: Use pictures, objects around your house, or the items on the alphabet chart to say the word and clap the parts.

Begin with words that have one or two syllables. Make sure your child says the word correctly and claps the parts.

Working with Rhymes: Say two words and help your child decide if the two words rhyme. (Rhyming words end with the same sounds.) Some children will be able to name a word that rhymes with another word. That is a more challenging task that will be strengthened in Kindergarten. **Picture Sorts:** Sort pictures by their initial consonant sound. Start with the letters: *b, d, f, j, k, l, m, n, p, r, s, t, v, z*. It’s fun to start with pictures of names of your family members.

Working with Books:

As you read to and with your child, there are a few things you can do to help your child develop reading behaviors.

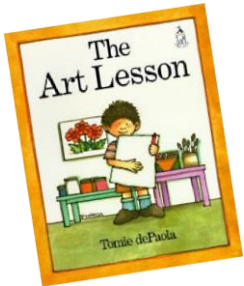
- Read to your child *every day*.
- Point to the words while you read a book to your child. Be deliberate.
- Talk about words and letters
 - discuss how some words are longer and have more letters while some words are short and have fewer letters.
 - count the number of letters in words your child knows – like his/her name.
- Point out capital and lower case letters in a book.
- When books have writing over pictures, talk about it. You can say things like, “Oh, look! There are words in that cloud!”
- Let your child read words he/she knows well. You’ll be surprised at how fast children learn simple words like: go, me, I, can.

Suggested Books to Read Aloud to Your Child:

Incoming kindergartners don't have a required reading assignment, but if you need ideas, the books below are great read-alouds.

Point out the title, author, & illustrator.

Talk about what you read together. Have fun with the books!



The Art Lesson by Tomie dePaola

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom- Bill Martin, Jr.

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus - Mo Willems

Down to the Sea with Mr. Magee- Chris Van Dusen (TB*)

Each Peach Pear Plum- Janet Ahlberg

Froggy Gets Dressed- Jonathan London

Goodnight, Goodnight Construction Site- Sherri D. Rinker (TB*)

How Do Dinosaurs? series- Jane Yolen

How I Became a Pirate- Melinda Long (TB*)

Is Your Mama a Llama? Deborah Guarino

Little Pea (or Little Hoot & Little Owl)- Amy K. Rosenthal (TB*)

Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten- Joseph Slate

Mr. Brown Cow Can Moo, Can You?- Dr. Seuss

The Napping House- Audrey Wood

The Night Before Kindergarten- Natasha Wing

Owl Moon- Jane Yolen

Our Seasons- Grace Lin (TB*)

Ox-Cart Man- Donald Hall

The Real Mother Goose- Blanche Fisher Wright

Red is Best- Kathy Stinson (TB*)

We Share Everything- Robert Munsch

Where the Sidewalk Ends- Shel Silverstein

Wiggle (or Stretch)- Doreen Cronin (TB*)

Wild About Books- Judy Sierra

*"TB" indicates the book can be found on TumbleBooks. Go to www.cks.org, click Homework Helpers, and then TumbleBooks. To search for a book, use this icon:



Username: cksstudent Password: books

