

your child was born ready to learn!

The Ready At Five Partnership

Ready At Five is a statewide partnership dedicated to ensuring that all Maryland children, birth through five, enter school ready to learn.

For information, call
410.727.6290

website
readyatfive.org

At every age your child is learning from each activity he or she does. Your baby learns every moment. When she responds to your voice, grabs the mobile over her crib, or squeals to get your attention, she's learning about her world.

Your toddler is learning when he stacks blocks and knocks them down, pretends to read a book, or learns a song. Your preschool youngster is learning, too – when you read aloud to her, let her help with simple chores like sorting socks, and when she plays and shares with other children.

All of these activities help your child get ready for school. One of the most important parts of your child's early learning is language – learning how to express needs and wants by talking and how to understand other through listening.

Talking with your child every day will help develop important skills that he or she needs to excel in school. Try some of the ideas on the reverse side of this card. Post it on your refrigerator, to remind yourself to talk with your child - at home, while shopping, when traveling and, in your neighborhood.

parents
matter



ready at five
partnership

It is never too early!
talk with your child

At home

While preparing a meal, talk to your child about the different foods you are cooking, make setting the table a guessing game (How many plates do we need?)

At the dinner table, talk about what you liked most about the day.

At bedtime, tell and read each other stories.

While shopping

At the grocery store, use a simple list you've made with your child and cross each item off when you find it.

When traveling

In the car, read the road signs along the way, point out the number of blue cars you see, count the number of people who cross the street when you are at a stop sign.

On the bus or subway, read the billboards aloud to your child, count the number of people getting on and off at each stop.

On the train or plane, read the different cities that you could travel to, make up stories about where people are going.

In your neighborhood

Take a walk and talk about what you see, like the shape of the clouds, the buds coming out on the trees, the weather or the colors of the houses you pass.