

Dear Parents,

You are your children's best and most important teacher! They learn many things through modeling, observing, and practicing. As your children begin their educational career, it is important that they get the opportunity to practice the skills that they are learning with you.

Some of our favorite activities - and fondest memories - as children include spending time together with our families, reading together, and having our parents ask us about our day. Here are some additional ideas of things to work on at home. We have found the most success with these ideas when we do them for short intervals (10-15 minutes) at a time.

Please don't hesitate to call if we can provide any additional suggestions.

Happy Learning!



WRITING:

Writing Materials:

It is great to have a variety of writing materials available to your child.

Examples:

- Pens/Pencils/Crayons/ Markers
- Colored Paper
- Sand/Shaving Cream
- Whiteboards
- Chalk
- Pudding
- Play dough
- Have your child decorate a special notebook that is only used for their writing and keep it in a special place.
- Encourage your child to think about what they are going to write before they begin. Have them focus on the sounds that they hear. It is okay if it is not spelled correctly!
- Have your child copy grocery lists, to do lists, or words around the house.
- Praise, Encourage, and Model

Report Cards/ Discipline Procedure

When should I expect my child's report card?

Your child will bring home a quarterly report card.

Where can I find a complete grading scale?

Our Kindergarten Grading Scale can be found online at www.milaca.k12.mn.us under the Kindergarten Page.

What do these letters mean?

It is important to remember that our young learners are just beginning their educational journey. Please do not compare them to siblings, cousins, or others in their classroom. Each child will learn at his/her own pace. Keeping this in mind, our report card consists of three letters: S, P, and N.

S = Satisfactory Progress

P = Progressing

N = Needs More Help



KINDERGARTEN

Overview, Strategies, Ideas, Games and Resources



MATH:

Number Recognition:

Look for numbers everywhere:

Street Signs
Gas Prices
Price Tags

Using Playing Cards:

- Play Go Fish
- Count the symbols on each card
 - Put them in order
- Put out two cards and add the symbols up to get a total
- Make a number book. Write a number on each page and glue that many items on the page.
- With a finger, draw a number on your child's back and see if they can guess the number.

Counting:

Count, Count, Count!!

- Books on a bookshelf
 - Pairs of socks
 - Spoons
- Cans of soda in a case
- Say a number and have your child tell you what number comes next.
- Practice counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's.

Pattering:

Make Patterns

- Make a pattern necklace
- Do movement patterns (sit, stand, & sit)

KINDERGARTEN FUN!



Pumpkin Carving



Easter Bunny Visits!



School Spirit!

READING:

Letter Recognition

Letter Sounds:

- Pick out a letter and have your child find it in a magazine.
- Shape letters out of cookie dough and bake them.
- Write letters on post-its and post them on drawers around the house. Ask your child to get you something from the "Mm" drawer.

Variations:

- Use letter sounds
- Use **sight** words
- Use numbers
- Make letters out of materials

Examples:

- Fruit Loops for the letter "Oo"
- Sandpaper for the letter "Ss"
- Cotton balls for the letter "Cc"
- Go on a letter sound hunt!

Word Recognition:

- Read to your child every day!
- Point to the words as you read
- Look at the pictures
- Play "I Spy" with **sight** words

Rhyming:

Play "You say, I say." One person thinks of a word while the other person thinks of a word to rhyme with it.

Great Game to Play When:

- Riding in the car
- Zipping up a jacket
- Tying those shoes