



Miramar Early Childhood Program

Getting Ready For Kindergarten

May/June 2012

How Can I Help My Child Be Ready for Kindergarten?

Readiness Begins at Birth

Parents and educators want young children to start kindergarten ready to learn and ready to benefit from the school experience. ***Being ready is a developmental process that begins at birth.*** The primary way that parents prepare children for later educational development is by interacting with their children. It is important that parents talk, read, sing, and play with children. During the first few years of life, young brains are in their fastest growth period and vital synapses are developing between neurons in the brain. Each time parents interact with their children, they promote this important "brain wiring."

What Skills Does My Child Need?

Remember that you are your child's first and most important teacher. One of the best things you can do to support your child's skill development is to read books with your child frequently. When you read to your child on a daily basis, you are providing your child with significant exposure to language.

As you talk to and play with your child...

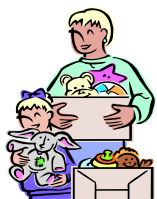


- ☺ Discuss colors, shapes, and sizes that you see around you.
- ☺ Describe positions such as "in/out" and "over/under".
- ☺ Practice matching and sorting with common household objects.
- ☺ Identify alphabet letters and numerals.

Also look for and point out these elements in books that you share with your child. Learning can be a fun experience for both you and your child.

- Sunset Lakes**
Nicole Gregg
Site Supervisor
2801 SW 186th Avenue
954-602-3360
- Silver Shores**
Christine Jackson
Site Supervisor
15700 Pembroke Road
954-442-4030
- Coccano Youth Center**
Gilary Gutierrez
Site Supervisor
2001 Douglas Road
954-602-4970
- Miramar Civic Center**
Susana Stuve
Site Supervisor
6920 SW 35th St
954-963-6683
- Karen Lewis**
Child Care
Superintendent
954-602-3361

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