

Fine and Gross Motor Skills

- ◆ Isolates one or two fingers
- ◆ Uses scissors to cut on a line
- ◆ Uses markers and pencils while holding paper
- ◆ Folds and tears paper
- ◆ Holds ruler with one hand while using pencil to draw
- ◆ Holds paper with one hand while applying glue with the other



- ◆ Runs, stops, changes direction
- ◆ Hops
- ◆ Gallops
- ◆ Combines motor skills to use some sport equipment
- ◆ Performs simple tumbling stunts
- ◆ Rides tricycle

Activities and Opportunities

Fun and interesting activities should be part of a family's routine. There are many activities which you and your child engage in during each day that can be excellent learning experiences for your child. The important thing to remember is to support your child's curiosity, imagination, and sense of wonder as they encounter each new learning experience.

Talk to your child. Talking builds brain connections, language and listening skills, and prepares your child for reading.

Read to your child.

- ◆ Brain cells make connections as a child hears words, looks at pictures, and sees letters.
- ◆ Hold your child close and talk to them about the pictures, the story, and the book's features.
- ◆ Ask questions. What do you think will happen next? What did you like best about the story? The least?
- ◆ Reading is one of the most important things parents can do to support their child's beginning reading development.

Allow opportunities for your child to:

- ◆ Sing and play
- ◆ Learn rhymes
- ◆ "Read" books
- ◆ Write notes, lists, stories
- ◆ Help you shop
- ◆ Help you do chores
- ◆ Explore and talk about the outside world
- ◆ Listen to a story and draw a picture. Talk about it.

Spend time with your child. Show patience with your child. Virtually every activity during your child's day can be a learning experience.

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

115 W. Washington Street
South Tower, Suite 600
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Phone: 317-234-6523

E-mail: djones@doe.in.gov
cgeier@doe.in.gov

www.doe.in.gov/earlylearning



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING AND INTERVENTION

How can I help my child prepare for Kindergarten?



