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BRIDGING
GRADES

K to 1

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skills sharp!

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Encouraging Summer Reading

Literacy is the single most important skill that your child needs to be successful in school. The following list includes ideas for ways that you can help your child discover the great adventures of reading!

- Establish a time for reading each day. Ask your child about what he or she is reading. Try to relate the material to a summer event or to another book.
- Let your child see you reading for enjoyment. Talk about the great things that you discover when you read.
- Choose books from the reading list (pages ix–x), or head to the library and explore. To select a book, have your child read a page aloud. If he or she does not know more than five of the words, the book may be too difficult.
- Read newspaper and magazine articles, recipes, menus, maps, and street signs on a daily basis to show your child the importance of reading informational texts.
- After you read a fiction book, ask your child to describe the main character to you. How does he or she look or behave? Present your child with several situations. Have her act out how the character would react to those situations.
- Choose several different types of books from the reading list. Talk about genres of books, like folktales, fairy tales, biographies, historical fiction, and informational texts. How many examples can you find from the reading list? Ask your child if he has a favorite type of book. Have your child paint a picture or create a collage that illustrates a book from his favorite genre.
- Make up stories or retell familiar stories. This is especially fun to do in the car, on camping trips, or while waiting at the airport. You can also have your child start a story and let other family members build on it.
- Find the author and illustrator names on the cover of a book and talk about what authors and illustrators do. Ask your child to use the illustrations to tell you about the story.
- Choose a nonfiction book from the reading list or the library. Before you begin reading, ask your child a question about the text. When you finish the book, ask her to write the answer to your question on a piece of paper. If she likes, she can add a drawing to illustrate it.



Summer Reading List

The summer reading list includes fiction and nonfiction titles. Experts recommend that parents read to kindergarten and first-grade children for at least 10 to 15 minutes each day. Then, ask questions about the story to reinforce comprehension.

Decide on an amount of daily reading time for each month. You may want to write the time on the Monthly Goals page at the beginning of each section in this book.

Fiction

Allard, Harry

Miss Nelson Is Missing!

Banks, Kate

Max's Words

Beaty, Andrea

Rosie Revere, Engineer

Berger, Carin

The Little Yellow Leaf

Brett, Jan

Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Carle, Eric

The Mixed-Up Chameleon

The Very Quiet Cricket

Demi

The Empty Pot

Falconer, Ian

Olivia

Fleischman, Paul

The Matchbox Diary

Fleming, Candace

Papa's Mechanical Fish

Harris, Jim

Three Little Dinosaurs

Henkes, Kevin

Chrysanthemum

Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse

Hoberman, Mary Ann

A House Is a House for Me

Krauss, Ruth

The Carrot Seed

Leaf, Munro

The Story of Ferdinand

Miller, Pat Zietlow

Sophie's Squash

Piper, Watty

The Little Engine That Could

Priceman, Marjorie

How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World

Rylant, Cynthia

Night in the Country

The Relatives Came

Sendak, Maurice

In the Night Kitchen

Where the Wild Things Are

Summer Reading List (continued)

Fiction (continued)

Seuss, Dr.
Oh, the Thinks You Can Think!
The Shape of Me and Other Stuff

Silverstein, Shel
A Giraffe and a Half
The Giving Tree

Slobodkina, Esphyr
Caps for Sale

Waber, Bernard
Ira Sleeps Over

Walsh, Ellen Stoll
Mouse Paint

Whybrow, Ian
Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs
(formerly *Sammy and the Dinosaurs*)

Willems, Mo
Don't Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late!
Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale

Yolen, Jane
How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?

Nonfiction

Bryant, Jen
A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of
Horace Pippin

Burns, Marilyn
The Greedy Triangle

Ehlert, Lois
Waiting for Wings

Gerstein, Mordicai
The Man Who Walked Between the Towers

Gray, Samantha
Eye Wonder: Birds

Huber, Raymond
Flight of the Honeybee

Jenkins, Steve and Robin Page
What Do You Do with a Tail Like This?

Lauber, Patricia
Be a Friend to Trees

Martin, Jacqueline Briggs
Snowflake Bentley

McCloud, Carol
Have You Filled a Bucket Today?: A Guide
to Daily Happiness for Kids

Musgrove, Margaret
Ashanti to Zulu: African Traditions

Schwartz, David M.
If You Hopped Like a Frog

Stone, Tanya Lee
Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors? The
Story of Elizabeth Blackwell



Monthly Goals

A *goal* is something that you want to accomplish. Sometimes, reaching a goal can be hard work!

Think of three goals to set for yourself this month. For example, you may want to exercise for 10 minutes each day. Have an adult help you write your goals on the lines.

Place a sticker next to each goal that you complete. Feel proud that you have met your goals!

1.	_____	PLACE STICKER HERE
2.	_____	PLACE STICKER HERE
3.	_____	PLACE STICKER HERE

Word List

The following words are used in this section. They are good words for you to know. Read each word aloud with an adult. When you see a word from this list on a page, circle it with your favorite color of crayon.

animal	number
color	past
lowercase	set
more	shape
noun	uppercase

SECTION I

Introduction to Flexibility

This section includes fitness and character development activities that focus on flexibility. These activities are designed to get your child moving and to get her thinking about building her physical fitness and her character.

Physical Flexibility

Flexibility, to the average person, means being able to accomplish everyday physical tasks easily, like bending to tie a shoe. These everyday tasks can be difficult for people whose muscles and joints have not been used and stretched regularly.

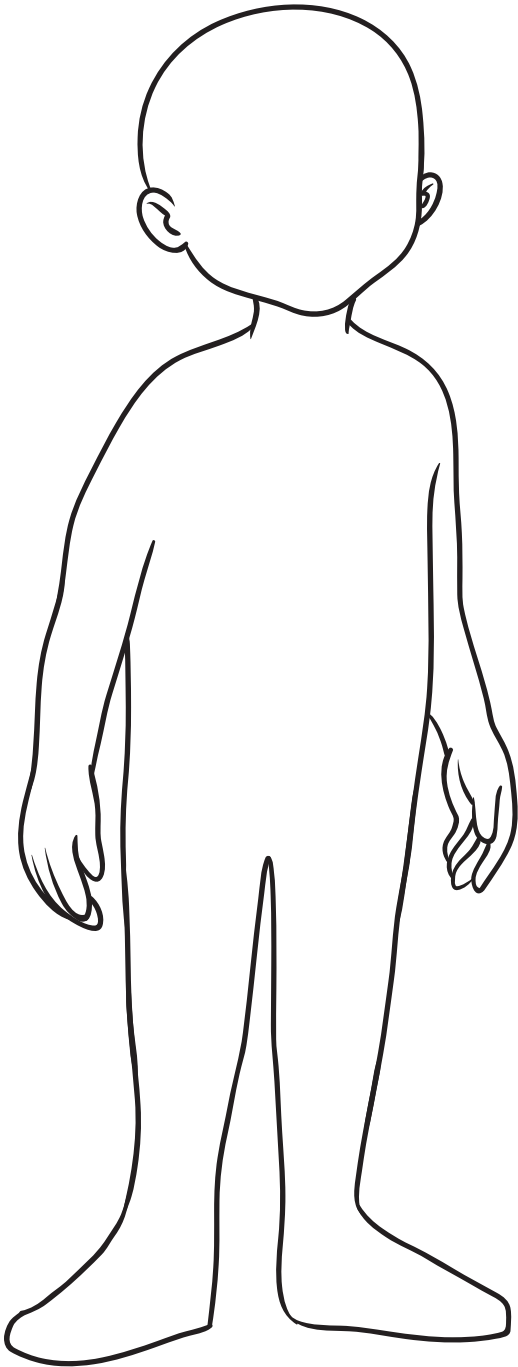
Proper stretching allows muscles and joints to move through their full range of motion, which is key to maintaining good flexibility. There are many ways that your child stretches every day without realizing it. She may reach for a dropped pencil or a box of cereal on the top shelf. Point out these examples to your child and explain why good flexibility is important to her health and growth. Challenge her to improve her flexibility consciously. Encourage her to set a stretching goal for the summer, such as practicing daily until she can touch her toes.

Flexibility of Character

While it is important to have a flexible body, it is also important to be mentally flexible. Share with your child that being mentally flexible means being open minded. Talk about how disappointing it can be when things do not go her way and explain that disappointment is a normal reaction. Give a recent example of when unforeseen circumstances ruined her plans, such as having a trip to the park canceled because of rain. Explain that there will be situations in life when unexpected things happen. Often, it is how a person reacts to those circumstances that affects the outcome. By using relatable examples, you can arm your child with tools to be flexible, such as having realistic expectations, brainstorming solutions to make a disappointing situation better, and looking for good things that may have resulted from the initial disappointment.

Mental flexibility can take many forms. For example, respecting the differences of other children, sharing, and taking turns are ways that your child can practice flexibility. Encourage your child to be flexible and praise her when you see her exhibiting this important character trait.

Track your growth this summer. Have an adult help you measure your height and weight. Fill in the blanks. Draw and color the picture to look like you.



Your Height:

Your Weight:

DAY 1

Say the alphabet in order. Touch each letter as you say it.

Aa

Bb

Cc

Dd

Ee

Ff

Gg

Hh

Ii

Jj

Kk

Ll

Mm

Nn

Oo

Pp

Qq

Rr

Ss

Tt

Uu

Vv

Ww

Xx

Yy

Zz

Ask an adult to say a letter. Find the letter and put a marker on it. Keep going until you have covered every letter.

Trace and write the numbers 0–7.

0 0 4 4

1 1 5 5

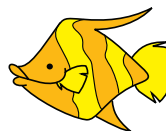
2 2 6 6

3 3 7 7

Read each word. Circle the pictures in each row that rhyme with the word.

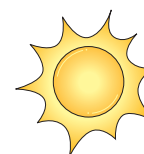
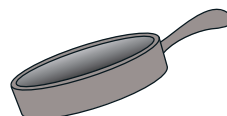
1.

cat



2.

fan



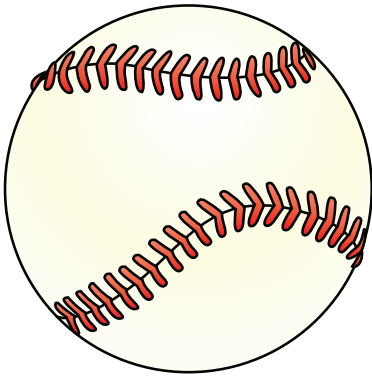
3.

hop



DAY 2

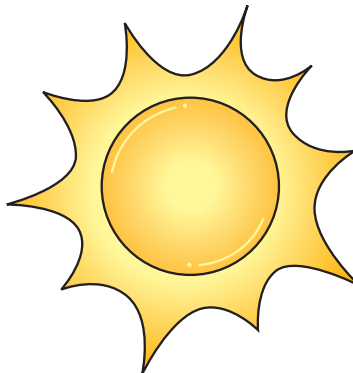
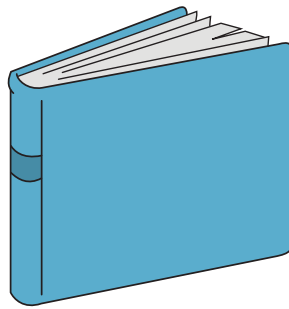
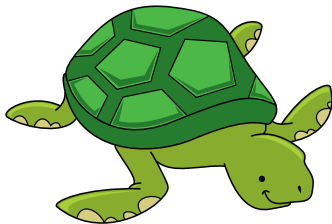
Baseball begins with the /b/ sound. Practice writing uppercase and lowercase **Bs**.



B B

b b

Say the name of each picture. Circle each picture that begins with the /b/ sound, like **baseball**.



FACTOID: Most baseballs have 108 stitches.

Trace and write the numbers 8–15.



Name each shape below. Circle the flat shapes. Underline the solid shapes.

