Supporting Your Student Soar for Success In Preschool
Welcome!

• We are partners with the same goal in mind... helping your child succeed.
• We want the very best for you and your child.
• We want to help in any way that we can.
Resources

• Family Centers
  - Dixie Sun, Heritage, Panorama, Enterprise & Water Canyon
• Family Healthcare Clinic
• Help Me Grow Utah
  - Dial 2-1-1
  - Ages & Stages Questionnaire
• Preschool Pioneer
• Vroom!
• Your Home 😊
what should a preschooler be able to do by the end of the school year?

- Enjoy coming to school and follow classroom routines
- Recognize and name basic colors
- Recognize and name basic shapes
- Listen to and follow directions
- Stay focused for 10 minutes
- Understand concepts of print
- Cut a straight line and a circle
- Write their name the correct way
- Work and play collaboratively with others
- Ask and answer “why” questions
- Recognize, name, write and count numbers 0-10
- Name all capital/lowercase letters
- Tell what sound all letters make
Like us on Facebook for news, events and great ideas!
Waterford @ Home

• Make sure that we have your e-mail so that your child can use the Waterford Early Learning software at home!

• You will receive an e-mail with instructions on how to set it up at home.
Epic Books

- Epic Books is a fantastic, award-winning digital library.
- It will help foster your child’s love of reading and self-directed learning.
- Studies show that a home library significantly improves a child’s academic success during the school year and beyond.
- Kids on Epic! get instant, unlimited access to an incredible selection of 25,000 books, learning videos, and more, all personalized for your child’s evolving reading level and interests (from animals and DIY to STEM & more).
- You can access Epic! on your smartphone, iPad or computer — so kids can read and learn anytime, anywhere. In addition, for each family that signs up for Epic! and connects using our unique Classroom Code, our class will receive points that I can redeem for free books and classroom supplies.
- Your child can access this resource for free from 6am-4pm Monday-Friday.
- You will get an email with an access code to use this at home during those hours.
1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

- 1000 books before Kindergarten
  - St. George library program

- How Can I Read 1,000 Books?
  - It's easy!
    - 3 books a day for 1 year = 1,095 books
    - 1 book a day for 3 years = 1,095 books

- You can:
  - Read the same book over, and over, and over.
  - Read in any language.
  - Story Times count, too!
Reading with Your Child

• Take home library books
• Sent home Monday-Wednesday
• Please read them with your child and mark off that you have done the reading
• Complete the Reading Logs for a free kite at the Kite Festival!
Read Aloud Commandments
by Mem Fox

1. At least 10 wildly happy minutes
2. 3 stories a day
3. Read aloud with animation
4. Read with joy and enjoyment
5. Read the stories kids love
6. Lots of language
7. Look for rhyme or repetition
8. Play games with things on the page
9. Do not get tense
10. Read everyday!
Children have to develop their fine motor skills (small muscles in their fingers and hands) so that they can be successful writers.

They need consistent daily practice to develop these muscles.

Let’s do some fun activities that help develop these muscles.

When your child finishes an activity, have them mark it off on their task card.

Bring their completed task card to the teacher to redeem for a prize.

These activities can easily be done at home, too, with materials from the dollar store.
Center #1: Cutting Practice

• Children lay on their tummy and keep their thumb up!
• Practice cutting all sorts of different materials
  • Paper
  • Straws
  • Foam
  • Cardstock
  • Yarn
  • Junk mail
  • Etc.
• Add a hole punch for even more fun!
Center #2: Torn Paper Apple

• Children will tear small pieces of red paper and then glue it on a small paper plate.
• Children will tear a green leaf and glue it on for a leaf.
• Children will tear a brown piece of paper for a stem and glue it on.
• What color is your apple?
• What color is your stem?
• What color is your leaf?
• What shape is your apple?
Center #3: Cheerio Races

• Race your child to put the most Cheerio’s on the spaghetti noodle that is stuck into a ball of playdoh.

• Who has the most? Who has the least? Which one is taller?

• What shape are the Cheerios?

• What letter does a Cheerio look like?

• What does the Playdoh smell like?
Center #4: Water Play

- Children will play in the water table with measuring cups, droppers, sponges, tongs, funnels, spray bottles, etc.

- What things can you add to your child’s bath so that they can work on their fine motor skills at home?
Center #5: Straw Tweezers

- Help your child fold a straw in half.
- Use the folded straw as “tweezers” to pick up pom poms and sort them into colors.
- What color goes in this bowl?
- Which color has the most?
- Which color has the least?
Center #6: Make Playdoh

• Mix 2 parts of corn starch to 1 part of hair conditioner to create easy and soft playdoh!

• Roll the playdoh into long snakes and then create the letters of your name.
Reading at Home

Reading at home will make a huge difference in your child's school success! Make reading part of your everyday routine. Choose books that match your child's interests.

Reading for just 10-15 minutes a day will benefit your child.

Building a Reader

- Have your child turn the pages.
- Encourage your child to fill in the rhymes as you read.
- Notice patterns in the text and illustrations.
- Have your child be the "reader" and read the pictures to you.
- Notice and talk about letters and the sounds they make.
- Help your child fall in LOVE with books!

Telling, Retelling, and Understanding

- Before reading, make predictions and ask questions. What is the story going to be about?
- Talk about new words and their meanings.
- Make connections to her/his life, other books, and/or movies/TV.
- What does this remind you of? Another book, something that happened in the story?
- Talk, comment, and ask questions about the characters and settings as you read the book. How does the character feel?
- Where is the character at the beginning/middle/end of the book?
- After you read the book, have your child retell you the story in order.
- Act out the story. Make different voices for each character. Use props and have fun.
- Have your child "read" the book (your child will make up the words that may or may not match the text and use the pictures as a guide).

Fun Fine Motor at Home

Things to remember:

- Make it FUN and hands on. Children need frequent opportunities and a variety of materials to develop their fine motor control as well as eye-hand coordination.

Quick information:

- Fine motor development involves the use of small muscles of the body (hands and fingers).
- It is the ability to pick up small items, color with crayons, copy designs, string beads, cut with scissors, draw shapes, and write letters.

Increase control and hand strength:

- Do a variety of puzzles.
- Tear paper and make a collage.
- Peel and stick stickers and/or tape to paper.
- Build or play with dominos.
- Color and write with broken crayons, sharp colored pencils, and thin markers.
- Offer tracing stencils or trace around objects.
- Build with small Legos or small wooden blocks.
- String beads, noodles, cereal, wood pipe cleaners, and yarn.
- Play games or explore with tweezers or small tongs to pick up items such as cotton balls, marshmallows, cereal, pom poms, and small buttons. Commercial games that use tweezers are Bed Bugs, Thin Ice, and Crazy Octopus.
- Sprinkle salt, flour, or oatmeal onto a cookie sheet. Your child can use their finger to make lines, shapes, letters, and/or numbers. Gently shake the tray to erase.
- Paint with various types of brushes and on various surfaces (paper, foil, wax paper).
- Use hole punches, shape punches, and/or letter punches.

Reading an Adventure

Read in fun places:

- Outside, inside, in the car, in the bathtub, in bed, on the couch, under a tree, at the library, in a tent, or in a park.

Read fun ways:

- With a flashlight, in different voices, on the computer, and so on.

ABC, a long is

Parrot spaghetti
animal
vehicle
bean

Items to cut:

- Paper
- Playdough
- Goop
- Newspaper
- Magazines
- Coupons
- Tissue paper
- Ribbon
- Whipping paper
- Tissue paper
- Leaves
- Grass

Cutting:

Show your child the correct way to hold the scissors, with the thumb up. Start by giving your child half-inch strips of paper to cut. Gradually make the paper wider as your child's scissor skills strengthen. You can draw thick black lines on paper. For your child to cut along. Make simple shapes for your child to cut out. Have your child make a collage with the items they cut out.

Playdough & Goop:

There are endless activities your child can do with playdough and goop. Roll the playdough into balls or snakes, cut it with scissors, pinch off small pieces, or make a sculpture. Hide small objects (seeds or a small plastic animal) in the playdough and then try to find it. Manipulate the playdough to make pretend food. Set out a rolling pin and cookie cutters to make pretend cookies! Make prints in the playdough using buttons, toothpicks, popscicle sticks, small plastic animals, or sea shells.

Water Play:

Water play is a great time to incorporate fine motor fun. Add the items below and let the fun (and muscle building) begin:

- Eye droppers
- Turkey basters
- Bath sponges
- Spray bottles
- Sponges to squeeze
- Tongs and Tweezers
- Container with lid