Getting Ready for KINDERGARTEN

A Calendar of Family Activities for 2019–2020
United Way of Champaign County — Helping all children succeed in school and in life
It’s never too early to get ready for kindergarten!

One of the most exciting days for you and your child is the first day of kindergarten. This calendar is designed to help you and your child get ready for that special day.

Let’s get started!

This calendar is for 3, 4, and 5 year olds who are preparing for kindergarten. The calendar runs from September through August; similar to the school year. Each month focuses on a different topic with suggested daily activities based on Illinois Early Learning Standards and strategies developed by early learning experts.

Use this calendar as a guide for fun ideas. Include family members and friends in the activities. Have a wonderful year together as you get ready for the big day!

Remember that play is an important part of learning. Your child learns best when he/she is spending time with you and doing activities that are fun and interesting.

Children develop at their own pace and “typical” development can vary greatly from child to child.

School readiness is much more than knowing letters and numbers. Children who are kindergarten ready have good social, self-help and physical skills and are developing a love for learning.
Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

This checklist is a guide to help prepare your child for school. It's best to look at the items on the list as goals to aim toward. If your child lags behind in some areas, don't worry, remember that children grow and develop at different rates.

Good Health and Physical Well-Being
My child:
- Eats a balanced diet
- Gets plenty of rest
- Receives regular medical and dental care
- Has had all the necessary immunizations
- Runs, jumps, plays outdoors and does other activities that provide exercise and help develop large muscles
- Puzzles, scribbles, colors, paints and does other activities that help develop small muscles

Social and Emotional Preparation
My child:
- Is learning to explore and try new things
- Is learning to work well alone and to do many tasks independently
- Has many opportunities to be with other children and is learning to cooperate with them
- Is curious and motivated to learn
- Is learning to finish tasks
- Is learning to use self-control
- Can follow simple instructions
- Helps with family chores
- Is learning to use words to identify and express emotions

Language and General Knowledge
My child:
- Has many opportunities to talk and listen
- Is read to every day
- Has access to books and other reading materials
- Is learning about print and books
- Has television viewing monitored by an adult
- Is encouraged to ask questions
- Is encouraged to solve problems
- Has opportunities to notice similarities and differences
- Is encouraged to sort and classify things
- Is learning to write his/her name and address
- Is learning to count and plays counting games
- Is learning to identify and name shapes and colors
- Has opportunities to draw and to be creative
- Has opportunities to listen to and make music and to dance
- Has opportunities to get first-hand experiences and to do things in the world—to see and touch objects, hear new sounds, smell and taste foods
- Store your child’s books in a special place that’s easy to reach such as a basket, drawer or a low shelf.
- Place a small rug or pillow nearby to create a comfortable space for reading.
- Get a library card for your child (and yourself if you don’t already have one).
- Find a place to read together away from distractions.
- Hold your child as you read to help develop a positive attitude toward reading.

- Children enjoy and learn by repetition so it’s OK if they want you to read the same books over & over.
- Talk about the story as you read. Ask questions, point out details in the pictures.
- Ask your child to retell the story in his/her own words.
- Talk about characters as you read together.
- Count out loud with your child every day while reading, cooking, and shopping, etc.

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<tr>
<td>Play a matching game or match items you have around the house.</td>
<td>Labor Day</td>
<td>Play hopscotch together.</td>
<td>Using a newspaper article, circle words that begin with the first letter of your child’s first name.</td>
<td>Talk about book characters as you read together today.</td>
<td>Play a board game or card game with your child.</td>
<td>Library Day! Take your child to the library and get a library card.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grandparents’ Day</td>
<td>Visit <a href="http://www.pbs.org/parents">www.pbs.org/parents</a> and click on the “Fun and Games” tab.</td>
<td>Find food items or animals that begin with the same sound. Name the letter.</td>
<td>Have a dance party.</td>
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<td>Help your child write his/her name.</td>
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**Grandparents’ Day**

**Library Day!**

**SEPTEMBER 2019**

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</table>
Go for a walk with your child. Talk about what you see.

Look through magazines and books to find things that are yellow.

Library Day! Have your child invite a friend to the library.

Practice bouncing a ball. Count the number of bounces.

Look for words that begin with the same first letter using books, magazines and newspapers.

Read a poem together

Pick a new book and encourage your child to guess what the story will be about by looking at the cover.

Practice counting from 1 to 10.

Play a matching game or match things you have around the house.

Practice writing your child’s name together.

Count out loud with your child every day while reading, cooking and shopping.

Yellow week: look for things that are yellow this week.

Autumn Begins

Practice writing your child’s name together.

Do you feel like you’re being watched? You are! The best way to help children learn how to act is to show them through your own words and actions. They are master imitators. When they hear you say please and thank you, they learn to be polite. When they see you help others, they learn to be helpful. When they hear you call someone a name — they will do it too. So don’t just tell children what to do — show them!

Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown

Go for a walk with your child. Talk about what you see.

Good books for four- and five-year olds

- Where Are My Books? by Debbie Ridpath Ohi
- The Pigeon Needs a Bath by Mo Willems
- One Day in the Eucalyptus, Eucalyptus Tree by Daniel Bernstrom, Illustrations by Brendan Wenzel
- Noisy Night by Mac Barnett, Illustrations by Brian Biggs
- Five Little Monkeys Reading in Bed by Eileen Christelow
- Again! by Emily Gravett
- This Book Just Ate My Dog! by Richard Byrne
- The Summer Nick Taught His Cats to Read by Curtis Manley, Illustrations by Kate Berube
- Decide on simple rules for using drawing & writing tools, “Markers may be used at the kitchen table or outdoors.” Or “Scissors are for cutting paper.”
- Draw pictures together about family events, daily experiences, etc.
- Praise your child’s efforts. Perfection is not the goal. Display some of their work and change it from time to time.
- Plan a healthy meal together.
- Make a grocery list together.
- Label belongings with your child’s name.
- Encourage your child to use the tools to write a letter if he or she is interested in writing.
- Practice how to hold scissors, how to open and close it, and how to hold the paper.
- Try snipping paper first or even play-doh or plastic straws.

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<tr>
<td>Read your favorite children’s book to your child.</td>
<td>Child Health Day</td>
<td>Make a necklace using dental floss and cereal like Cheerios™</td>
<td>Cut pictures of expressive faces from magazines and make a feelings collage.</td>
<td>Library Day!</td>
<td>While outdoors, allow your child to draw on the sidewalk with chalk.</td>
<td>Take your child for a walk and collect different kinds of leaves.</td>
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<td>Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday</td>
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13. Make a grocery shopping list together.

14. Write a note with your child to a grandparent, relative or friend.

15. Clap your hands to the beat of a song.

16. Library Day! Show your child how to write his/her name using upper- and lowercase letters.

17. Make a grocery shopping list together.

18. Count to 20 or higher.

19. Make the bed together.

20. Find food items or animals that begin with the same sound as your child's first name. Name the letter.

21. Practice zipping

22. Sort or count things like socks, canned soups, buttons, etc.

23. Practice fire safety: stop, drop & roll.

24. Arrive a play date for your child.

25. Orange week: look for things that are orange this week.

26. Plan a healthy meal to eat on Halloween.

27. Act out a favorite story. Use puppets, dolls or stuffed animals.

28. Help your child build his/her name using magnetic letters.

29. Plan a healthy meal to eat on Halloween.

30. Halloween Encourage your child to say “thank you” while trick-or-treating.

■ The waiting game. Waiting is hard for all of us, but especially for children. Sometimes waiting can’t be avoided, so be prepared with a “bag of tricks.” Maybe a bag with a notebook, colored pencils, and a small hand held game or music player, books, simple snacks like raisins or crackers and a juice box or water bottle. Keep a few simple songs in your head like Itsy Bitsy Spider or ABCs, make up a story, or just count the change in your pocket or purse. Time flies when you are BOTH having fun.

Good books for four- and five-year olds

- Go to Bed, Monster! by Natasha Wing, Illustrations by Sylvie Kantorovitz
- Mix It Up! by Hervé Tullet
- Henri’s Scissors by Jeanette Winter
- The Day the Crayons Quit by Drew Daywalt, Illustrations by Oliver Jeffers
- A Squiggly Story by Drew Daywalt, Illustrations by Mike Lowery
- Red: A Crayon’s Story by Michael Hall
- Monster Trouble by Lane Fredrickson, Illustrations by Michael Robertson
- Blue Chicken by Deborah Freedman
- Eraser by Anna Kang, Illustrations by Christopher Weyant
All Saints’ Day
Help your child begin to learn his/her address and phone number.

Daylight Savings Time Ends
Turn clocks back one hour

Monday
Toss bean bags or socks in a basket.
Balance books on your head while walking.
Visit a safe outdoor space so you can run and play together.
Play toss and catch together with a rubber ball.
Set up an obstacle course (inside the house or out). Run through it or steer a tricycle/bike through it.

Tuesday
Teach your child games like “Hokey Pokey,” “Red light-green light” and “Simon Says.”
Suggest your child try to move like different animals: hop like a rabbit, slither like a snake, fly like a bird.

Wednesday
Have your child tell a story to a family member.

Library Day!
Look in books and magazines for different facial expressions: happy, sad, excited, scared, etc.

Thursday
Play hopscotch.

Friday
All Saints’ Day
Have a dance party.

Saturday
Help your child draw a picture or write a note to a family member about something he/she is thankful for.

Get moving

Routines aren’t boring—they’re healthy. Children feel more secure when they know what to expect. Keep a basic structure to your day. An evening routine might include setting the table, eating dinner, playtime, bath time, snack, tooth brushing, three stories, ten kisses and lights out! When children know what’s coming next, it’s easier for them to cooperate and you avoid a lot of temper tantrums.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
Daylight Savings Time Ends
Help your child begin to learn his/her address and phone number.
Election Day
Have your child tell a story to a family member.
Play hopscotch.
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<td>10</td>
<td>Veterans Day (observed)</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Take a walk. Find things that are brown.</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Put on some music and dance with your child and a friend or other family members.</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Say a word to your child and ask him/her to say words that rhyme.</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Go outside and kick a ball back and forth with your child.</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Help your child draw a picture of your family.</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Go to the grocery store and have your child help pick items for Thanksgiving.</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Ask your child to help set the table and count the items.</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Library Day!</td>
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<td>Ask your child to predict the end of a story before you read it.</td>
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<td>Exercise with your child. Count the number of arm circles or hops.</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Make a picture or decoration for Thanksgiving.</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Practice zipping, tying or buttoning.</td>
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<td>Read a Thanksgiving story.</td>
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<td>Hum or sing a song as you pick up toys together.</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Day</td>
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<td>Sing ABCs</td>
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<td>Schedule a play date at a park.</td>
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**Good books for four- and five-year-olds**

- *I Got the Rhythm* by Connie Schofield-Morrison, Illustrations by Frank Morrison
- *Ninja!* by Arree Chung
- *From Head to Toe* by Eric Carle
- *On the Ball* by Brian Pinkney
- *You Are a Lion and Other Fun Yoga Poses* by Taeeun Yoo
- *Move Your Mood!* by Brenda S. Miles, Illustrations by Holly Clifton-Brown
- *Spunky Little Monkey* by Bill Martin, Illustrations by Brian Won
- *Is Everyone Ready for Fun?* by Jan Thomas
- *It's a Tiger!* by David LaRochelle, Illustrations by Jeremy Tankard
**Letters and words at home and around town**

- Use an uppercase letter followed by lowercase letters when writing your child’s name. For example: “Matthew.”
- Make a name card for each member of your family. Help your child place them at the dinner table where everyone sits.
- Use letter magnets on the refrigerator or a cookie sheet to spell their name and familiar names: Mom, Dad.
- Place alphabet letters in a container. Pull them out one at a time and name them.
- Invite your child to “read” familiar business signs as you run errands.
- Read alphabet books and allow him/her to name the letters they recognize.
- Read a book together then ask your child to go back and look for a certain letter of the alphabet found in the story.
- Write the alphabet on paper. Sing the ABC song slowly and have your child touch each letter as you go.

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<tr>
<td>Practice the ABC song.</td>
<td>Help your child practice zipping his/her coat and take a walk together.</td>
<td>Sing songs today as you clean house or cook dinner together.</td>
<td>Find circles and squares around your house.</td>
<td>Library Day!</td>
<td>Have your child write his/her name on a card and display it on their bedroom door.</td>
<td>Make cookies with your child to share as a gift.</td>
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<td>Green week: look for things that are green this week.</td>
<td>Name fruits and vegetables found in your refrigerator.</td>
<td>Have your child practice tying his/her shoes or the shoes of someone else.</td>
<td>Have your child practice saying your phone number.</td>
<td>Rhyme time: what rhymes with black?</td>
<td>Read a favorite winter book.</td>
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<td>Day</td>
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<td>Name four things that rhyme with “cat.”</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Sing a favorite holiday song together.</td>
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<td>Count to 50.</td>
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<td>Help your child write the letters of his/her first name.</td>
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<td>Read a holiday story at bedtime.</td>
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<td>Winter begins</td>
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<td>Hanukkah begins at sundown</td>
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<td>Put on music and dance.</td>
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<td>Christmas Eve</td>
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<td>Christmas Day</td>
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<td>Kwanzaa begins</td>
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<td>Countdown! Count backwards from 10.</td>
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<td>Make a list of fun things to do over the holidays.</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Hanukkah Ends</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>New Year’s Eve</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Draw or write thank you notes for holiday gifts received.</td>
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**Good books for four- and five-year olds**

- *Yoko Finds Her Way* by Rosemary Wells
- *8: An Animal Alphabet* by Elisha Cooper
- *Did You Take the B from My _ook?* by Beck Stanton
- *LMNO Peas* by Keith Baker
- *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by Bill Martin, Jr. and John Archambault
- *Let’s Go ABC!: Things That Go from A to Z* by Rhonda Gowler Greene, Illustrations by Daniel Kirk
- *Oops, Pounce, Quick, Run!* by Mike Twohy
- *If the S in Moose Comes Loose* by Peter Hermann, Illustrations by Matthew Cordell

**Love you, love me.** Taking care of yourself makes you a better parent. Find a little quiet time each day to do something for you. Find a hobby, read a book, soak in a bubble bath. Develop healthy habits for you and your family. Love yourself and your child by engaging in healthy, safe adult relationships.
**Math is everywhere!**

- Talk math. Use words such as more, less; longer, shorter; heavy, light; etc.
- Count out LOUD every day. Start at 1 and count as you walk, put plates on the table, add apples to your grocery cart or as they wash their hands. Ask your child to count with you. Pause and ask, “What number comes next?”
- Hold up 5 fingers in front of your child then quickly hide your hand. Ask, “how many fingers did you see?”
- Name and describe shapes when you see them. That is a square napkin. The box of cereal is a rectangle. That tire is a circle.
- Count: “Let’s count the blocks.”
- Compare: “Which plate has more crackers?”
- Explore: “Let’s go on a shape hunt — can you find circles?”
- Question: “I wonder how many cars we can fit in this basket?”
- Sort: “Let’s put all the yellow pieces in this pile.”

### January 2020

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<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schedule eye, dental or physical exams needed for kindergarten.</td>
<td>Scavenger Hunt for shapes around the house.</td>
<td>Play Simon Says.</td>
<td>New Year’s Day</td>
<td>Library Day!</td>
<td>Sing some of your child’s favorite songs.</td>
<td>Practice counting to 10 or higher.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Practice fire safety: stop, drop & roll.
- Make or draw a snowman with your child.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blue week: look for things that are blue this week.</th>
<th>Have your child divide a snack evenly to share.</th>
<th>Continue teaching your child his/her phone number and address.</th>
<th>Have your child try to tie his/her scarf.</th>
<th>Library Day!</th>
<th>Make an indoor obstacle course.</th>
<th>Recite nursery rhymes with your child.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Make a grocery list. Ask if an item is a fruit, vegetable, or meat, etc.</td>
<td><strong>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</strong></td>
<td>Look at family pictures together.</td>
<td>Play “I Spy Numbers.”</td>
<td>Teach your child to play a board game with a friend.</td>
<td>Make a piggy bank together out of a coffee can and start saving coins.</td>
<td><strong>Chinese New Year</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Good books for four- and five-year olds**

- *Dog Loves Counting* by Louise Yates
- *Count the Monkeys* by Mac Barnett, Illustrations by Kevin Cornell
- *20 Big Trucks in the Middle of the Street* by Mark Lee, Illustrations by Kurt Cyrus
- *Bear & Hare, Where’s Bear?* by Emily Gravett
- *City Shapes* by Diana Murray, Illustrations by Bryan Collier
- *One Two That’s My Shoe!* by Alison Murray
- *Ten Little Caterpillars* by Bill Martin, Jr. and Lois Ehlert, Illustrations by Lois Ehlert
- *Everybunny Count!* by Ellie Sandall
- *Is That Wise Pig?* by Jan Thomas
**Thoughts and feelings**

- Turn off the music & movies in the car and talk about where you are going, what you are going to do and what might happen when you get there.
- Turn off the TV and put down the phone at meal times. Talk about what you did or are going to do today.
- As you read together ask your child to tell you what he/she sees in each picture.
- Ask your child to predict what will happen before you turn the page.
- Ask your child to draw you a picture and then tell you about it.
- Model sympathy & caring for others, “Dad isn’t feeling well. Let’s make him some soup.”
- Talk about situations and how they might make people feel happy, sad, frustrated, angry, scared, etc.
- Encourage your child to talk about and label his/her feelings.
- Teach calming techniques when you see your child becoming upset. “Stop, take a deep breath, relax,” etc.
- Visit [www.csefel.vanderbilt.edu](http://www.csefel.vanderbilt.edu) for more ideas.

**Sunday**

- **YOU are the best reward.** When your child does a good job or learns a new skill, reward him or her with your time and attention. Avoid using treats or toys as rewards or bribes for good behavior. Sweets aren’t healthy and toys cost money. Time with you is free and builds bonds that last a lifetime.

**Monday**

- Make a list of people you love and talk about why you love them.

**Tuesday**

- Read a book about feelings.

**Wednesday**

- Make a meal together.

**Thursday**

- Sing the ABC song.

**Friday**

- Zip up! Take your child for a walk and invite a friend.

**Saturday**

- Play a game together or as a family.

**Groundhog Day**

- Make and send homemade Valentine’s Day cards to loved ones on your list.

---

**FEBRUARY 2020**

1

**Sunday**

2

**Monday**

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**Tuesday**

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**Wednesday**

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**Thursday**

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**Friday**

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**Saturday**

8
| Red week: look for things that are red this week. | Washington's Birthday (observed) | Play a board game or card game with your child. | Play musical chairs. | Have your child invite a friend over to play. | Use a spoon and bowl to tap out the beat to your favorite song. | Look outside and talk about what you see. |
| Find things around the house that begin with the sound of the letter “M.” | Make puppets out of paper bags or socks and act out a fun activity. | Read a story and ask your child what his/her favorite part was and why. | Work on a puzzle together. | Library Day! | Count all the doors and windows in your home. | Make up silly words that rhyme with your child’s name. |
| Read a book that talks about emotions. | Library Day! | Library Day! | Valentine’s Day | Library Day! | Count to 100. | Library Day! |

**Good books for four- and five-year-olds**

- *This Makes Me Happy* by Courtney Carbone, Illustrations by Hilli Kushnir
- *Even Superheroes Have Bad Days* by Shelly Becker, Illustrated by Eda Kaban
- *Niko Draws a Feeling* by Bob Raczka, Illustrated by Simone Shin
- *Grumpy Pants* by Claire Messer
- *Llama, Llama Mad at Mama* by Anna Dewdney
- *A Kiss Means I Love You* by Kathryn Madeline Allen, Photographs by Eric Futran
- *Wild Feelings* by David Milgrim
- *I Used to Be Afraid* by Laura Vaccaro Seeger
- *My Friend Is Sad* by Mo Willems
- Introducing children to rhymes and rhyming words and playing with them gives children a head start in reading and spelling.
- Read Mother Goose rhymes with your child. After you’ve read one a few times ask your child to complete the rhyme with the correct word: “Hickory, Dickory, Dock. The mouse ran up the ___(clock)____.”
- As your child becomes more familiar with the rhymes, encourage them to join in and say parts of the rhyme themselves (it will take a while before they can recite whole rhymes independently).
- Remember that nursery rhymes are portable, they can be enjoyed anytime, anyplace, anywhere! Share them at bath time, when getting ready for bed, while cooking or in the car.
- Change words to make your own personalized rhymes, for example, “Nye and Jill went up the hill” or, “One for the master, one for the dame and one for Nia Hopkins, who lives down the lane.”

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purple week: look for things that are purple this week.</td>
<td>Read Across America</td>
<td>Listen to a story on tape or CD with your child.</td>
<td>Act out going to the doctor or dentist. Talk about what might happen.</td>
<td>Bake cookies together. Count the number on each tray.</td>
<td>Read two books today. Have your child tell you which is his/her favorite and why.</td>
<td>Read a simple poem with your child.</td>
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Daylight Savings Time Begins
Turn clocks one hour forward

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<td>Turn clocks one hour forward</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Visit a zoo.  
Take a walk and look for signs of spring.  
St. Patrick’s Day  
Find things around the home that begin with the sound of the letter “J.”  
Name a letter and have your child find items beginning with that sound.  
Spring Begins  
Find things that begin with the sound of the letter “D.”  
Spring Begins  
Say the wrong words and let your children correct you!

Count to 50 (or higher).  
Schedule a kindergarten physical and dental exam for your child.  
Find things around the home that begin with the sound of the letter “J.”  
Sing the ABC song.  
Library Day!  
Visit the library to borrow nursery rhyme books.  
Read two books today. Have your child choose the books.  
Schedule a kindergarten physical and dental exam for your child.  
Visit the library to borrow nursery rhyme books.  
Visit a zoo.  

Pick objects around your house that rhyme: sock-rock; hat-cat; chair-bear.  
Sing songs with rhyming sounds.  
Practice writing numbers 1–5.  
Sing the ABC song.  
Library Day!  
Visit the library to borrow nursery rhyme books.  
Read two books today. Have your child choose the books.  
Practice opposites with your child (up/down, in/out, over/under).

Good books for four- and five-year-olds

- Red Sings from Treetops: A Year in Colors by Joyce Sidman, Illustrations by Pamela Zagarenski
- The Book With No Pictures by B. J. Novak
- The Cow Tripped Over the Moon: a Nursery Rhyme Emergency by Jeanne Willis
- King Jack and the Dragon by Peter Bentley, Illustrations by Helen Oxenbury
- Cock-A-Doodle-Doo, Creak, Pop-pop, Moo by Jim Aylesworth, Illustrations by Brad Sneed
- Frog on a Log? by Kes Gray, Illustrations by Jim Field
- Noisy Night by Mac Barnett, Illustrations by Brian Biggs
- Make Way for Readers by Judy Sierra, Illustrations by G. Brian Karas
- Ah Ha! by Jeff Mack

Regular Vision Exams Needed: Illinois law requires that proof of an eye examination by an optometrist or physician who provides complete eye examinations be submitted to the school no later than October 15th of the year the child is first enrolled or as required by the school for other children. The examination must be completed within one year prior to the child beginning school.
Find letters in the Sunday paper or a magazine.
- Continue teaching your child his/her phone number and address.
- Passover begins at sunset
- Take a walk and talk about the different sounds you hear.
- Practice printing by tracing the letters of your child’s name on a piece of paper.
- April Fools’ Day
  Have your child name letters found on cereal boxes, cans, etc.
- Library Day!
  Let your child pick out a video the whole family will enjoy.
- Review “stranger danger” rules.
- Count to 100.
- Paint or draw a picture today.

- Pre-view age-appropriate TV programs, videos, music, computer games, websites and apps to be sure they teach what you want your child to learn.
- Set time limits on all electronics. Children need opportunities to run, play, explore and use their imaginations.
- Keep TV, computers, tablets, etc in a public area of your home not the child’s bedroom to allow for easier monitoring.
- Watch programs or play games together. Talk- use this time to teach and connect with your child.
- Check out DVD’s from the library on topics that interest your child such as animals, outer space, etc.
- Turn electronics off at mealtime. Use the time to talk about your day.

Technology as a teaching tool

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Have your child name letters found on cereal boxes, cans, etc. | Library Day!
Let your child pick out a video the whole family will enjoy. | Review “stranger danger” rules. | Count to 100. |
<p>| Paint or draw a picture today. | Good Friday |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Pink week: look for things that are pink this week.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Visit the PBS web site: <a href="http://www.pbskids.org">www.pbskids.org</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Practice fire safety: stop, drop &amp; roll.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Library Day! Bring a friend to the library and check out a movie together.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Practice writing numbers 1–10.</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Watch TV with your child. Discuss what you see and feel.</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Earth Day Practice writing the ABCs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Cook something together today. Talk about kitchen safety.</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Continue teaching your child his/her phone number and address.</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Earth Day Play shape scavenger hunt.</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Take a walk. Look for flowers starting to bloom.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>First Day of Ramadan Put on music and dance and clap to the beat.</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Library Day!</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Put on music and dance and clap to the beat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Pink week: look for things that are pink this week.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Draw a picture of spring.</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Have your child begin to learn his/her birth date and age.</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Practice writing the ABCs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Library Day!</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Websites**
- www.pbskids.org
- www.pbs.org/parents
- www.sesameworkshop.org/sesamestreet/DVDs
- See How They Grow series from DK and Sony Wonder
- PBS Series (Sid the Science Kid, Super WHY, WordWorld)
- Sesame Street series (Kids Favorite Songs, Sing Hoot and Howl with the Sesame Street Animals, Learning About Numbers)

**Books**
- *Bedtime Is Canceled* by Cece Meng, Illustrations by Aurélie Neyret
- *Doll-E 1.0* by Shanda McCloskey
- *Tea With Grandpa* by Barney Saltzberg
- *Doug Unplugged* by Dan Yaccarino
- *Unplugged* by Steve Anthony
- *Look!* by Jeff Mack
- Turn household chores into learning games — match socks as you fold laundry or line up canned goods by size. These activities can build math and cooperation skills. Feeling useful also helps children feel good which encourages them to continue to want to be helpful.
- Children can help set the table. Extend their memory by giving 3 step directions (Please get the milk from the refrigerator. Set it on the table. Get the napkins).
- Make matching pairs of cards with stickers, drawings or pictures cut from magazines.
- Use Legos to create color patterns. Have your child continue the pattern: red, yellow, black, red, … what comes next?
- Play seek and find. “Find something yellow in the kitchen.” “Find something that is square.”
- Pour and measure together in the kitchen, the bathtub or use a bucket of water outside on a hot summer day filled with measuring spoons and cups.

### Play and Learn

**Sunday**

- **Do you get tired of saying “no” and “don’t do that” all the time?** Try switching it up and give your child positive directions. Tell them what **to do** rather than what NOT to do: Say “use your quiet voice” instead of “don’t yell!” or “keep the water in the bathtub” instead of “quit splashing.” Being positive sets a more pleasant mood and children are more likely to follow directions happily.

**Monday**

- Start a Brightstart College Savings account at www.brightstartsavings.com.

**Tuesday**

- Count from 1 to 10 or as high as your child can count.

**Wednesday**

- **Cinco de Mayo**
  - Sing a favorite song with your child.

**Thursday**

- Look through old magazines and cut out circles, squares, and rectangles.

**Friday**

- Practice the ABC song.

**Saturday**

- Name words that rhyme with “can.”

**May 2020**

- Play Simon Says. Focus on exercise activities (hopping, bending over, touching toes).

- Visit the zoo or read a book about animals.

1. Remember to say “please” and “thank you” today.
Find things around the house that are square, circular, and rectangular.

Black week: look for things that are black this week.

Write ABCs or family names.

After listening to a story, have your child tell you what happened first, next, and last.

Find things around the house that are square, circular, and rectangular.

Play hopscotch.

Play a game together such as Memory or Go Fish.

Squirt water on the sidewalk and time how long it takes to evaporate. Ask “How long do you think it will take?”

Help your child write his/her name.

Play “I Spy.” (Remember to include black objects.)

Library Day!

Help a neighbor today.

Sort coins into groups by color or size.

Good books for four- and five-year olds

- *Let’s Count Goats* by Mem Fox, Illustrations by Jan Thomas
- *Drum Dream Girl: How One Girl’s Courage Changed Music* by Margarita Engle, Illustrations by Rafael López
- *Monsters Love Colors* by Mike Austin
- *Let’s Play!* by Hervé Tullet
- *How Do You Say? / ¿Cómo Se Dice?* by Angela Dominguez
- *Each Peach Pear Plum: an “I Spy” Story* by Janet and Allan Ahlberg
- *Brown Rabbit’s Shape Book* by Alan Baker
### Critical thinking and problem solving

- Cut out pictures or gather items that go together and ask your child to match: shoe & sock; flower & vase; care & tire; fork & spoon, etc.
- When your child becomes frustrated while playing a game or playing with a friend, refrain from jumping in and solving the problem. Instead, ask questions and guide your child by asking “How did that happen?” and “What can you do differently?”
- Ask your child for their opinion on simple problems such as “Should we wash the car or take a walk?” Then follow up with “Why?” Or in the grocery store ask “Chicken or fish for dinner?”
- Hide common objects from the house in a box or bag. Ask your child to close his/her eyes and reach inside. Don’t pull the item out but feel it and try to guess what it is.
- Cook in the kitchen together and ask questions as you mix and stir and bake. “What will happen when we add this milk to the flour?” “What will happen to the frosting when I add this drop of food coloring?”

### June 2020

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Read a story to your child. Point to each word as you read.</td>
<td>Practice fire safety: stop, drop &amp; roll.</td>
<td>Practice writing numbers 1–20.</td>
<td>Play a game of Go Fish or Old Maid.</td>
<td>Color a picture together. Cut it into puzzle pieces and try to put it back together.</td>
<td>Find things that begin with the sound of the letter “S.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>White week: look for things that are white this week.</td>
<td>Reminder: Did you schedule a kindergarten physical and dental exam?</td>
<td>Make a picnic lunch with your child and eat outside.</td>
<td>Practice fire safety: stop, drop &amp; roll.</td>
<td>Library Day! Review “stranger danger” rules.</td>
<td>Bake a cake together today.</td>
<td>Plant flowers together in a pot or in the ground and water the flowers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Activity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flag Day</td>
<td>Have your child match socks as you fold laundry.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Have you scheduled an eye exam?</td>
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<td>Cut up an old greeting card in puzzle-like shapes. Ask your child to fit the pieces back together.</td>
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<td>Count groups of ten using a cereal like Cheerios™.</td>
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<td>Work on a puzzle together.</td>
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<td>Summer</td>
<td>Draw a picture of fun things to do in the summer.</td>
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<td>Have your child invite a friend over to play.</td>
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<td>Go outside and ask your child to repeat patterns: step-step-jump, clap-clap-pat, etc.</td>
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<td>As you pick out fruits and vegetables at the grocery store, have your child name the colors.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Practice writing numbers 1–20.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Library Day!</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Start a nursery rhyme and have your child finish it.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Continue teaching your child his/her phone number and address.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Make lemonade. Ask your child to help measure ingredients.</td>
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<td>Father’s Day</td>
<td>Find small scoops, cups, and balls around the house. Use them for water play outside.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Good books for four-and five-year olds</td>
<td>Sam and Dave Dig a Hole by Mac Barnett, Illustrated by Jon Klassen</td>
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<td>When Sophie Thinks She Can’t … by Molly Bang</td>
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<td>What’s Up Bear? by Frieda Wishinsky</td>
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<td>Have You Seen My Trumpet? by Michaël Escoffier, Illustrations by Kris Di Giacomo</td>
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<td>Do You Know Which Ones Will Grow by Susan A. Shea, Illustrations by Tom Slaughter</td>
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<td>You Are Not Small by Anna Kang, Illustrations by Christopher Weyant</td>
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<td>Flora and the Peacocks by Molly Idle</td>
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<td>The Little Red Fort by Brenda Maier, Illustrated by Sonia Sanchez</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B. Bear &amp; Lolly: Catch That Cookie! by A. A. Livingston</td>
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</table>

**Thanks for the memories.** Chances are your own happy memories revolve around things you did with those you love. Really enjoy your child by taking time to have fun together every day. Sing songs while making dinner or driving the car. Take a walk and look for ducks or interesting sticks. Play ball, play house, play cards, play ANYTHING — just do it together!
**All about me**

- Make a book by stapling or tying blank pages together with yarn.
- Find photos of your child to put in the book. Give them magazines to cut out pictures of things they like.
- Ask your child questions and write the question and their exact answer in the book: My name is ____________________; I like to ____________________; My favorite food is ____________________; My favorite color is ____________________; I like it when my mom ____________________; etc.
- Make another page of personal information your child should know and practice this often: My name is ____________________; I am a ____________; I was born on _______________________________; My address is _______________________________; My phone number is _______________________________; My phone number is _______________________________; I’m allergic to _______________________________; In an emergency I should call _______________________________; etc.

### July 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Take a walk and count the trees or other things you see.</td>
<td>Make sun tea or lemonade together. Share with a friend.</td>
<td>Play a toss game together.</td>
<td>Have your child find things that are his/her favorite color.</td>
<td>Continue teaching your child his/her phone number and address.</td>
<td>Independence Day (Observed)</td>
<td>Independence Day</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. Independence Day
2. Continue teaching your child his/her phone number and address.
3. Independence Day
4. Write simple names or words.
5. Take a walk and count the trees or other things you see.
6. Draw a picture of your family and have your child say the first and last names of each member.
7. Play a toss game together.
8. Library Day!
9. Play "I Spy" for the number 1.
10. Pick two books to read today.
11. Library Day!
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 1 | Count pennies… count as high as you can. | 2 | Find objects that rhyme with “pig.” | 3 | Play a “freeze” game or “Stop and Go.” | 4 | Have your child invite a friend over to play. | 5 | Count to 101. | 6 | Find things that begin with the sound of the letter “T.” | 7 | Visit a farmers’ market. |
| 8 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 9 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 10 | Explore a different culture! Read and talk about it. | 11 | Fly a kite. | 12 | Practice writing letters and numbers. | 13 | Have a dance party. | 14 | Library Day! | 15 | Pick a game for family game night. | 16 | Practice naming opposites, like up/down, on/off, etc. |
| 17 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 18 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 19 | Picnic day. | 20 | Count pennies… count as high as you can. | 21 | Practice fire safety: stop, drop & roll. | 22 | Go outside and play Hopscotch or swing. | 23 | Have your child retell a story or event in order (first, middle, last). | 24 |   | 25 |   |

**Good books for four- and five-year olds**

- *Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt de la Peña, Illustrations by Christian Robinson
- *What I Like About Me* by Allia Zobel Nolan, Illustrations by Miki Sakamoto
- *The Family Book* by Todd Parr
- *Fred Stays with Me!* by Nancy Coffelt, Illustrations by Tricia Tusa
- *Why Am I Me?* by Paige Britt, Illustrated by Sean Qualls and Selina Alko
- *I Like Myself* by Karen Beaumont, Illustrations by David Catrow
- *Be Who You Are* by Todd Parr
- *I’m Gonna Like Me: Letting Off a Little Self-Esteem* by Jamie Lee Curtis. Illustrations by Laura Cornell
• Before the first day of school, choose school supplies and label them.
• Play school together and take turns being the teacher.
• Eat a meal from a lunch box or tray. Show your child how to clean up and open milk/juice cartons.
• Visit your child’s school and explore the classroom and playground.
• Talk about the kinds of things they will be doing at school.
• Two weeks before school starts, adjust your child’s bed time to what it will be during the school year.
• Create a healthy routine that allows time for family meal, homework, play, bath, teeth brushing and a bedtime story.
• Practice zippers, buttons, opening backpack, putting on tennis shoes. Not all children have mastered shoe tying by the first day of school and that’s OK. Just remember to practice once in a while.

**Seven positives.** Did you know on average it takes seven positive comments to balance the effect of just one negative comment? Saying “good girl” or “good boy” isn’t enough. Be specific and tell your child what was good about it. For example, “Wow. That tower is the tallest you’ve ever built. You worked really hard on it and I like the columns on the side.”

*Get ready!*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9</th>
<th>Pretend it is the first day of school. Practice ways to say goodbye.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Practice writing numbers 1–25.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Draw a picture. Talk about it. Write what your child says.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Talk about your day at dinner.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Count how many red clothes you have.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Look for things that begin with “P.” Point out the letter “P” in print.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Library Day!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Cut pictures out of magazines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Organize what your child will need for the first day of school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Play with ice cubes outside. Watch how fast they melt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Shop for school supplies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Help your child write his/her name and identify each letter.</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Read an extra book. Spend extra time snuggling.</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Library Day!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Continue teaching your child his/her phone number and address.</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Name all the foods on your plate. What is your favorite?</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Use addition and subtraction words like “I have one cookie and you have two cookies. That makes three cookies.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Have your child talk about the steps in the planting project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Draw a picture of your new school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Put together a puzzle with your child.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Make a tent inside. Read books in it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Make extra snuggle time today.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Play “I Spy Colors.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Good books for four- and five-year olds**

- *Lena’s Shoes Are Nervous: A First-Day-of-School Dilemma* by Keith Calabrese, Illustration by Juana Medina
- *All Are Welcome* by Alexandra Penfold, Illustrated by Suzanne Kaufman
- *How Do Dinosaurs Go to School* by Jane Yolen
- *Monkey Not Ready for Kindergarten* by Marc Brown
- *School’s First Day of School* by Adam Rex, Illustrations by Christian Robinson
- *Mission: Back to School: Top-Secret Information* by Susan Hood, Illustrations by Mary Lundquist
- *Mom, It’s My First Day of Kindergarten!* by Hyewon Yum
- *This Is My Home, This Is My School* by Jonathan Bean
All parents/legal guardians of children who will be five years of age on or before September 1 are encouraged to register their children for kindergarten.

Early registration begins as early as March 1 for some schools. Check with your local school district for your kindergarten registration information.

In most cases, the parent/legal guardian will need to bring the following for kindergarten registration:

- Child’s official birth certificate (with raised seal)
- Child’s social security number
- Proof of residency (required for all registrants) — copy of signed mortgage, contract to build or lease agreement showing the owner/resident’s name and address OR TWO of the following items:
  - Utility bills which have the name and address of the resident
  - Valid driver’s license
  - Voter registration card
  - State medical card
  - Notarized affidavit of residency from the parent or person with whom the child is residing, affirming that the child eats and sleeps at the residence

All students entering kindergarten must provide documentation of a current physical examination and immunizations PRIOR to starting school, AND proof of a dental exam. You do not need proof of a physical or dental exam to register your child.

It is recommended that you make your child’s appointments for a kindergarten physical and dental exam by April or even earlier! Students who do not have physical and dental exams by the first day of school may not be allowed to attend school.

Kindergarten Readiness Websites

- Early Learning Tip Sheet with links: illinoisearlylearning.org/relists/getready-kindergarten/
- Games, articles, and resources to make back-to-school fun: www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/collection/back-to-school/back-to-school-start-smart
- Kindergarten milestones and skill builders by subject: www.familyeducation.com/school-learning/kindergarten
- Getting School Ready! Guide (available in several languages, including Spanish and Chinese). This free downloadable brochure provides tips to help parents prepare their children for entering kindergarten: thrivewa.org/gettingschoolready/
Local Libraries

Our local libraries circulate books, magazines, DVDs, CDs, toys and kits, books on tape, large print books, and other materials. Many provide programs for children six months and older.

- **Champaign Public Library**
  200 W. Green
  Champaign, IL 61820-5193
  Main: 403-2000
  Youth Dept.: 403-2030
  www.champaign.org

- **Douglass Branch Library**
  504 E. Grove St.
  Champaign, IL 61820 • 403-2090
  www.champaign.org

- **Homer Community Library**
  500 E. 2nd St.
  Homer, IL 61849-1223 • 896-2121
  homervillage.com/HomerLibrary.htm

- **Mahomet Public Library District**
  1702 E. Oak St.
  Mahomet, IL 61853 • 586-2611
  www.mahometpubliclibrary.org

- **Ogden Rose Public Library**
  103 W. Main
  Ogden, IL 61859 • 582-2411
  ogdenroselibrary.blogspot.com/

- **Philo Public Library District**
  115 E. Washington
  Philo, IL 61864-0199 • 684-2896
  www.philolibrary.info

- **Rantoul Public Library**
  106 W. Flessner
  Rantoul, IL 61866 • 893-3955
  www.rantoul.lib.il.us

- **Sidney Community Library**
  221 S. David St.
  Sidney, IL 61877 • 688-2332

- **St. Joseph Township Sweasingen Memorial Library**
  201 N. Third St.
  St. Joseph, IL 61873 • 469-2159
  www.stjosephtownshiplibrary.info

- **Tolono Public Library District**
  111 Main St. • P. O. Box 759
  Tolono, IL 61880-0759 • 485-5558
  www.tolonolibrary.org

- **Urbana Free Library**
  210 W. Green St.
  Urbana, IL 61801-3283
  Main: 367-4057
  Children's Dept.: 367-4069
  www.urbanafreelibrary.org

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CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION

Recommended schedule, birth to 18 years.

Immunizations are done by appointment only. Call 217-531-4317 in Champaign County to schedule. Parent or legal guardian must sign consent forms. Must bring current shot record. Charges may vary for each immunization, public aid card/cash/check/or billing.

- **DTaP**: Give at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, and 15-18 months. Booster dose at 4-6 years.
- **IPV**: Give at 2 months, 4 months, and 6 months. Booster dose at 4-6 years.
- **HIB**: Give at 2 months, 4 months, and 6 months. Booster dose at 12-15 months.
- **Rotavirus**: Given at 2 months, 4 months, and 6 months. Series cannot be started after 15 weeks.
- **Hepatitis A**: Dose #1 at 12 months. Dose #2, given 6 months after #1.
- **Hepatitis B**: Give at birth to 2 months, #2 at 4 months, and #3 at 6 months or older.
- **Prevnar**: Give at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, and 12-15 months.
- **MMR/MMRV**: Dose #1 given at 12-15 months. Booster at 4 to 6 years.
- **HPV**: Given to boys and girls age 11-14 years with 1st dose prior to age 15 (only two doses are needed 6 months apart). If a boy or girl receives 1st dose after 15th birthday then a three dose schedule is required (1st dose, two months later – 2nd dose, and four months after 2nd dose the 3rd dose is given).
- **Td/Tdap**: Booster every 10 years. Required prior to 6th grade and high school entry in Illinois.
- **Meningitis**: 1st dose age 11-12 years, 2nd dose age 16-18.
- **Pediarix (Dtap, IPV and Hep B) and Comvax (HIB/HepB) may be used to reduce the number of immunizations given to infants.**

The CUPHD Immunization Programs follow the recommended immunization schedule outlined by the ACIP (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices), AAP (American Academy of Pediatrics), and the AAFP (American Academy of Family Physicians).
Champaign County Elementary Schools

**CHAMPAIGN SCHOOL DISTRICT #4**

**Champaign Administration**
Mellon Administrative Center
703 South New Street
Champaign, IL 61820 • 351-3800

**Barkstall Elementary School**
2201 Hailbeck Drive
Champaign, IL 61822 • 373-5580

**Booker T. Washington Elementary School**
606 East Grove Street
Champaign, IL 61821 • 351-3901

**Bottenfield Elementary School**
1801 South Prospect Ave.
Champaign, IL 61820 • 351-3872

**Carrie Busey Elementary School**
304 Prairie Rose Ln
Savoy, IL 61874 • 351-3811

**Dr. Howard Elementary School**
1117 West Park Avenue
Champaign, IL 61821 • 351-3866

**Garden Hills Elementary School**
2001 Garden Hills Drive
Champaign, IL 61821 • 351-3872

**International Prep Academy**
1605 West Kirby Ave
Champaign, IL 61821 • 351-3995

**Kenwood Elementary**
1001 Stratford Dr
Champaign, IL 61821 • 351-3815

**Robeson Elementary School**
2501 Southmoor Drive
Champaign, IL 61821 • 351-3884

**South Side Elementary School**
712 South Pine Street
Champaign, IL 61820 • 351-3890

**Stratton Academy of the Arts**
902 North Randolph Street
Champaign, IL 61820 • 373-7330

**Westview Elementary School**
703 South Russell
Champaign, IL 61821 • 351-3905

**FISHER SCHOOL DISTRICT #1**

**Fisher Elementary School**
801 S 5th St
Fisher, IL 61843 • 897-1133

**GIFFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT #188**

**Gifford Grade School**
406 South Main, Box 70
Gifford, IL 61847 • 568-7733

**HERITAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT #8**

**Heritage Junior High and Elementary School**
512 West First
Homer, IL 61849 • 896-2421

**LUDLOW SCHOOL DISTRICT #142**

**Ludlow School**
245 South Orange, Box 130
Ludlow, IL 60949 • 396-5261

**MAHOMET-SEYMOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT #3**

**Lincoln Trail Elementary School**
102 East State, Box 200
Mahomet, IL 61853 • 586-2811

**Middletown Prairie Elementary School**
1301 South Bulldog Drive
Mahomet, IL 61853 • 586-5833

**Sangamon Elementary School**
601 East Main, Box 198
Mahomet, IL 61853 • 586-4583

**OGDEN COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #212**

**Prairieview-Ogden South Elementary School**
106 N Vine Street
Royal, IL 61871

**PRAIRIE VIEW OGDEN SCHOOL DISTRICT #197**

**Prairie View Ogden North**
PO Box 27
Royal, IL 61871 • 538-3300

**Prairie View Ogden South**
304 N Market
Ogden, IL 61859 • 582-2725

**RANTOUL CITY SCHOOLS #137**

**Broadmeadow School**
500 Sunview
Rantoul, IL 61866 • 893-5405

**Eastlawn School**
650 North Maplewood Drive
Rantoul, IL 61866 • 893-5404

**Northview School**
400 North Sheldon
Rantoul, IL 61866 • 893-5403

**Pleasant Acres School**
1625 Short Street
Rantoul, IL 61866 • 893-5402

**ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL DISTRICT #149**

**St. Joseph Grade School**
2201 Hallbeck Drive
Champaign, IL 61820 • 351-3800

**MELLON ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER**
703 South New Street
Champaign, IL 61820 • 351-3800

**URBANA SCHOOL DISTRICT #116**

**Urbana Administration**
Jean E. Burkholder Administrative Service Center
205 N. Race Street
Champaign, IL 61820 • 359-1701

**NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Calvary Baptist Christian Academy**
2106 E. Windsor Road
Urbana, IL 61802 • 367-2262

**Canaan Academy**
207 North Central Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801 • 367-6590

**CountrySide School**
4301 West Kirby
Champaign, IL 61822 • 355-1253

**Holy Cross Elementary School**
410 West White Street
Champaign, IL 61820 • 356-9521

**Judah Christian School**
908 North Prospect Avenue
Champaign, IL 61820 • 359-1701

**Devonshire KinderCare**
410 Devonshire Drive
Champaign, IL 61820 • 356-9000

**The Montessori School of Champaign Urbana**
1403 Regency Drive East
Savoy, IL 61874 • 356-1818

**Next Generation School**
2521 Galen Drive
Champaign, IL 61821 • 356-6995

**St. John Lutheran School**
509 South Mattis Avenue
Champaign, IL 61821 • 359-1714

**St. Malachy School**
340 East Belle Avenue
Rantoul, IL 61866-1804 • 892-2011

**St. Matthew School**
1307 Lincolnshire Drive
Champaign, IL 61821 • 359-1144

**University Primary School**
51 Gerty Drive
Champaign, IL 61820 • 333-3996
DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENINGS

All children develop in unique ways and at different rates. Screenings are a fun and comfortable way to learn how a child is developing, and to address developmental questions parents and caregivers may have.

Champaign County residents can have their children screened by calling their local school district:
- Champaign: (217) 351-3881
- Urbana: (217) 384-3616
- Mahomet-Seymour: (217) 586-5833
- Rural Champaign County: (217) 892-8877
- Developmental Services Center: (217) 356-9176

OTHER RESOURCES

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS
www.aap.org
Health and wellness information for families including information on developmental stages, immunizations, and parenting.

2-1-1 or www.211.ORG
A FREE confidential phone hotline available 24/7/365 to answer questions and provide referrals. Call whenever you need assistance with emergency shelter, food pantries, day care, rent or utility assistance, elderly care, mental health services, employment, health resources, domestic abuse, education, vocational training, disability resources, counseling, disaster recovery, or drug and alcohol rehabilitation.

PARENTING 24/7
parenting247.org
News, information, and advice on parenting and family life designed for parents and grandparents of children ages newborn to teen. Features include articles with research-based information, video clips of parents and experts discussing timely age-based topics, breaking news and commentary, newsletters, and recommendations to the best parenting resources on the web.

SCHOLASTIC
www.scholastic.com/parents/
Provides information, activities, and advice for parents with a focus on literacy and learning.

PBS PARENTS
www.pbs.org/parents
Information about child development and fun educational activities for children to help get them ready for school.

READING ROCKETS
www.readingrockets.org
Reading Rockets offers a wealth of strategies, lessons, and activities designed to help young children learn to read.

THE ILLINOIS EARLY LEARNING PROJECT
illinoisearlylearning.org/resources/relists/
Provides evidence-based, reliable information on early care and education for parents, caregivers, and teachers of young children in Illinois. The site offers printable Tip Sheets for caregivers and parents, Frequently Asked Questions (and their answers), a customized question-answering service, a statewide calendar of events for parents and caregivers, and links to “The Best of the Web” on topics related to early care and education.

BORN LEARNING
www.bornlearning.org
Site provides resources to help parents, caregivers, and communities support early learning.

ZERO TO THREE
www.zerotothree.org
Provides information about child development and care in areas such as early brain development, early language and literacy, and play.
The Search Institute has identified forty building blocks that are essential for helping children become healthy, caring, and responsible individuals. These building blocks, also called Developmental Assets™, are competencies that children develop through their experiences with people in their world (parents, teachers, child care providers, librarians, bus drivers, and others).

**EXTERNAL ASSETS**

**SUPPORT**

1. Family support—Parent(s) and/or primary caregiver(s) provide the child with high levels of consistent and predictable love, physical care, and positive attention in ways that are responsive to the child’s individuality.

2. Positive family communication—Parent(s) and/or primary caregiver(s) express themselves positively and respectfully, engaging young children in conversations that invite their input.

3. Other adult relationships—With the family’s support, the child experiences consistent, caring relationships with adults outside the family.

4. Caring neighbors—The child’s network of relationships includes neighbors who provide emotional support and a sense of belonging.

5. Caring climate in child-care and educational settings—Caregivers and teachers create environments that are nurturing, accepting, encouraging, and secure.

6. Parent involvement in child care and education—Parent(s), caregivers, and teachers together create a consistent and supportive approach to fostering the child’s successful growth.

**CONSTRUCTIVE USE OF TIME**

15. Positive peer relationships—Parent(s) and caregivers seek to provide opportunities for the child to interact positively with other children.

16. Positive expectations—Parent(s), caregivers, and teachers encourage and support the child in behaving appropriately, undertaking challenging tasks, and performing activities to the best of her or his ability.

17. Play and creative activities—The child has daily opportunities to play in ways that allow self-expression, physical activity, and interaction with others.

18. Out-of-home and community programs—The child experiences well-designed programs led by competent, caring adults in well maintained settings.

19. Religious community—The child participates in age-appropriate religious activities and caring relationships that nurture her or his spiritual development.

20. Time at home—The child spends most of her or his time at home participating in family activities and playing constructively, with parent(s) guiding TV and electronic game use.

29. Honesty—The child begins to understand the difference between truth and lies, and is truthful to the extent of her or his understanding.

30. Responsibility—The child begins to follow through on simple tasks to take care of her or himself and to help others.

31. Self-regulation—The child increasingly can identify, regulate, and control her or his behaviors in healthy ways, using adult support constructively in particularly stressful situations.

**SOCIAL COMPETENCIES**

32. Planning and decision making—The child begins to plan for the immediate future, choosing from several options and trying to solve problems.

33. Interpersonal skills—The child cooperates, shares, plays harmoniously, and comforts others in distress.

34. Cultural awareness and sensitivity—The child begins to learn about her or his own cultural identity and to show acceptance of people who are racially, physically, culturally, or ethnically different from her or him.

The more assets children have the better. Research shows that adolescents who report having more assets are more likely to be successful in school and in their personal life. The Search Institute has found that most adolescents have only 18 to 20 of these 40 Developmental Assets™.

Starting early is critical to helping children build assets. Your use of this Kindergarten Readiness Calendar is a great start.

Review the Developmental Assets™ list below and see how you can help children entering kindergarten build their assets.
EMPOWERMENT

7. Community cherishes and values young children—Children are welcomed and included throughout community life.

8. Children seen as resources—The community demonstrates that children are valuable resources by investing in a child-rearing system of family support and high-quality activities and resources to meet children’s physical, social, and emotional needs.

9. Service to others—The child has opportunities to perform simple but meaningful and caring actions for others.

10. Safety—Parent(s), caregivers, teachers, neighbors, and the community take action to ensure children’s health and safety.

BOUNDARIES & EXPECTATIONS

11. Family boundaries—The family provides consistent supervision for the child and maintains reasonable guidelines for behavior that the child can understand and achieve.

12. Boundaries in child-care and educational settings—Caregivers and educators use positive approaches to discipline and natural consequences to encourage self-regulation and acceptable behaviors.

13. Neighborhood boundaries—Neighbors encourage the child in positive, acceptable behavior, as well as intervene in negative behavior in a supportive, nonthreatening way.

14. Adult role models—Parent(s), caregivers, and other adults model self-control, social skills, engagement in learning, and healthy lifestyles.

INTERNAL ASSETS

COMMITMENT TO LEARNING

21. Motivation to mastery—The child responds to new experiences with curiosity and energy, resulting in the pleasure of mastering new learning and skills.

22. Engagement in learning experiences—The child fully participates in a variety of activities that offer opportunities for learning.

23. Home-program connection—The child experiences security, consistency, and connections between home and out-of-home care programs and learning activities.

24. Bonding to programs—The child forms meaningful connections with out-of-home care and educational programs.

25. Early literacy—The child enjoys a variety of pre-reading activities, including adults reading to her or him daily, looking at and handling books, playing with a variety of media, and showing interest in pictures, letters, and numbers.

POSITIVE VALUES

26. Caring—The child begins to show empathy, understanding, and awareness of others’ feelings.

27. Equality and social justice—The child begins to show concern for people who are excluded from play and other activities or not treated fairly because they are different.

28. Integrity—The child begins to express her or his views appropriately and to stand up for a growing sense of what is fair and right.

35. Resistance skills—The child begins to sense danger accurately, to seek help from trusted adults, and to resist pressure from peers to participate in unacceptable or risky behavior.

36. Peaceful conflict resolution—The child begins to compromise and resolve conflicts without using physical aggression or hurtful language.

POSITIVE IDENTITY

37. Personal power—The child can make choices that give a sense of having some influence over things that happen in her or his life.

38. Self-esteem—The child likes her- or himself and has a growing sense of being valued by others.

39. Sense of purpose—The child anticipates new opportunities, experiences, and milestones in growing up.

40. Positive view of personal future—The child finds the world interesting and enjoyable, and feels that he or she has a positive place in it.
Young children are curious about the world around them. Introduce your child to new things: parks, zoos, museums, hiking, sporting events, restaurants. Invite a friend! Here are some fun places to go with your child. Visit the web site www.chambanamoms.com for current children’s activities throughout Champaign County.

**FARMERS MARKET**

**Champaign Farmers Market**
Parking Lot M off Neil St between Washington and Main
Fresh produce, homemade food & craft items. www.thelandconnection.org/market

**Champaign Country Fair Farmers’ Market**
229 S Mattis Avenue
www.farmersmarketonline.com/fm/ChampaignCountryFairFarmersMarket.html

**Champaign Historic North First Street Market**
Cooking demonstrations, children’s garden, family friendly events. www.localharvest.org/farmers-market-on-historic-north-first-street-M27502

**Urbana’s Market at the Square**
Corner of Illinois and Vine St, Urbana • 384-2319
Homemade craft items, fresh produce, music, and more. 3rd Sat of the Month for kids 3–8.

**Prairie Fruits Farm and Creamery**
4410 N Lincoln Ave, Champaign
Selling gelato and cheese. Visit the goats, too. www.prairiefruits.com

**PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS**

**Ambucs Park**
1140 E University Ave, Urbana
Accessible playground, picnic tables.
www.urbanaparks.org/parks/ambucs-park

**Blair Park**
1402 S Vine St, Urbana
Ball fields, playground, shuffleboard courts.
www.urbanaparks.org/parks/blair-park

**Busey Woods/Anita Purves Nature Center**
1505 N Broadway Ave, Urbana • 384-4062
Closed Sundays
Hiking trails, wildlife viewing and nature programs.
Indoor nature center with exhibits.
www.urbanaparks.org/parks/natural-areas

**Crystal Lake Park**
206 W Park St, Urbana • 328-1069
Playground, paddle boats, dock fishing, lighted sledding hill. www.urbanaparks.org/park/crystal-lake-park

**Hessel Park Water Play**
1401 Grandview Dr, Champaign • 398-2550
11am–3pm & 5pm–7pm, Memorial Day–Labor Day
Free water play area with in-ground sprays.
www.champaignparks.com/hessel-waterplay

**First Christian Church Indoor Playground & Track**
3601 S Staley Rd, Champaign • 356-1649
Indoor playground and track, soft walking and playing surface, open to the public. Free WiFi, eating area.
www.fcc-online.org/kidsstudents/indoor-playground

**Hap Parker Family Aquatic Center**
320 W Flessner, Rantoul • 893-5700
Two water slides, water toys for children, concession stand, picnic tables, and more.

**Heritage Lake Park**
910 Titan St Rantoul, IL 61866
Fishing, picnic tables, playground, horseshoe pits, pavilion and bridges connecting small islands.
www.village.rantoul.il.us/facilities/facility/details/heritage-lake-9

**Heritage Lake Park**
910 Titan St Rantoul, IL 61866
Fishing, picnic tables, playground, horseshoe pits, pavilion and bridges connecting small islands.
www.village.rantoul.il.us/facilities/facility/details/heritage-lake-9

**Sholem Aquatic Center**
2205 W Sangamon Dr, Champaign • 398-2581
Seasonal passes available. Open May 24–Sept 1.
Water slides, activity pool, lap pool, kiddie pool, bathhouse and concession stand.
champaignparks.com/facility/sholem-aquatic-center/

**Urbana Indoor Aquatic Center**
102 E Michigan Ave, Urbana • 384-7665
Indoor pools and water playground, water geysers, rain drop umbrella toy, and dinosaur slide.
www.urbanaparks.org/facilities/urbana-indoor-aquatics-center

**POOLS & WATER PLAY**

**Crystal Lake Park Family Aquatic Center**
1401 N Broadway, Urbana • 239-7946
Visit website or call for hours and pricing.
Open Memorial Day–Labor Day.
Waterslides, climbing wall, sand play area, activity pool, vortex, water-based fitness classes, swim lessons.
www.urbanaparks.org/facilities/crystal-lake-park-family-aquatic-center/

**Hap Parker Family Aquatic Center**
320 W Flessner, Rantoul • 893-5700
Two water slides, water toys for children, concession stand, picnic tables, and more.

**Sholem Aquatic Center**
2205 W Sangamon Dr, Champaign • 398-2581
Seasonal passes available. Open May 24–Sept 1.
Water slides, activity pool, lap pool, kiddie pool, bathhouse and concession stand.
champaignparks.com/facility/sholem-aquatic-center/

**Urbana Indoor Aquatic Center**
102 E Michigan Ave, Urbana • 384-7665
Indoor pools and water playground, water geysers, rain drop umbrella toy, and dinosaur slide.
www.urbanaparks.org/facilities/urbana-indoor-aquatics-center
Hessel Park
1400 Grandview Dr, Champaign • 398-2591
Water play area and playground.

Kaufman Lake (Champaign Park District)
2702 E Springfield Ave, near Duncan Rd • 398-2570
Trails around lake, picnic areas, fishing, biking, ice-skating in winter.

Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve
109 S Lake of the Woods Rd, Mahomet • 586-3360
10 miles west of Champaign/Urbana off I-74 near Mahomet, Exit 172 or 174
Boating, paddle boat rentals, fishing, hiking, sledding, and plenty of play areas.

Meadowbrook Park
101 W Windsor Rd Urbana • 344-2144
Concrete bike trail, hiking trail, sculptures, herb garden, open field, and playground.

Prairie Park
E Washington St, Urbana • 367-1544
Large wooden play structure with sandbox, swings, bridges, tunnels, slides, and more.

West Side Park
400 E University Ave, Champaign
Playground, fountain, and walking paths.

Windsor Road Christian Church Indoor Playground
2501 Windsor Rd Champaign • 359-2122
Climbing, slides, and play area

MUSEUMS
Champaign County History Museum
102 E University Ave, Champaign • 356-1010
Located in the historic Cattle Bank, the museum features exhibits highlighting county history.
www.champaignmuseum.org

Krannert Art Museum & Kinkead Pavilion (U of I)
500 E Peabody Dr, Champaign • 333-1861
Info: 333-1860
Second largest public art museum in Illinois.
www.kam.illinois.edu

Museum of the Grand Prairie
950 N Lombard St, Illinois Route 47 N, Mahomet • Free admission
Extensive collection interpreting 19th/20th Century life in east-central Illinois. Discovery Room offers hands-on opportunities and educational programs for all ages.
www.museumofthegrandprairie.org

Monticello Railway Museum
PO Box 401 992 Iron Horse Place, Monticello • 762-9011
(Take Market St exit, turn at the stoplight onto Iron Horse Place at the Best Western, follow the frontage road to end.)
Museum displays cars, materials and artifacts relating to railroading. Also offers seven mile roundtrip train rides on weekends and some holidays from May through October. www.mrym.org

Monticello Railway Museum
901 N Main St, Monticello • 243-1980
(Take I-80 to exit 231 on SR 16 East. Drive 1 mile to Monticello and take a right on Main St. Drive 4 blocks to the Museum.)

Museum of Natural History (U of I)
1301 West Green St, Urbana • 333-2517
Building hallway exhibits on biology and geology available to visitors when University is in session.

Orpheum Children’s Science Museum
346 N Neil St, Champaign • 352-5895
Hands-on children’s science museum. Exhibits and activities encourage children to explore science at their own pace in an informal setting.
www.orpheumkids.com

The Spurlock Museum (U of I)
Closed Monday
600 S Gregory St, Urbana • 333-2360
Educational resource center features permanent cultural galleries celebrating Africa, Egypt, Europe, Asia, Oceania, Americas, and Ancient Mediterranean.
www.spurlock.illinois.edu

OTHER
Anita Purves Nature Center and Busey Woods
1505 N Broadway, Urbana • 384-4062
Mon–Fri 8am–5pm, Sat 9am–4pm, Closed Sundays
Nature shop, multipurpose room, park, forest preserve.
www.urbanaparks.org/parks/natural-areas

Curtis Orchard and Pumpkin Patch
3902 S Duncan Rd, Champaign • 359-5565
Open July 20–December, hours vary by season
Pick your own apples and pumpkins in season. Petting zoo, mazes, horseback rides, and more.
www.curtisorchard.com

Hardy’s Reindeer Ranch
1356 CR 2900 N, Rantoul • 893-3407
Fall–Christmas
Chuck-wagon barbeque, corn maze, Christmas wonderland, and more. www.reindeerranch.com

Prairie Farm Petting Zoo
Centennial Park
2202 Kirby Ave, Champaign • 398-2583
Mon–Sun 1–7pm, Memorial Day–mid-August
Traditional farm animals and petting zoo.

Sailfin Pet Shop
720 S Neil St, Champaign • 352-1121
Visit the fish, turtles, snakes & other aquarium species.
www.sailfin.com

William M. Staerkel Planetarium
Parkland College
2400 W Bradley Ave, Champaign • 351-2446
Show hotline: 351-2446
Star shows, light shows, science education programs.
Getting Ready for Kindergarten

The United Way of Champaign County is dedicated to bringing people and resources together to create positive change and lasting impact in our community. We focus a portion of funds raised locally on strategies that provide a firm foundation for our youngest residents so they can grow and develop into successful middle and high school students. Ultimately, graduating with a plan and the skills needed to implement that plan so they can be productive, contributing members of their community.

We do this in partnership with the Birth to Six Council and the Champaign Urbana Cradle to Career Initiative (CUC2C). By serving as the CUC2C anchor institution for Kindergarten Readiness we’re working to coordinate and align community resources to ensure all children enter school on track for educational success.

Thanks to the generous support of our community and sponsors, these calendars are available free to all parents, grandparents and caregivers of children ages 3, 4 and 5 years old.

Getting started with Bright Start is easy. Open an account with as little as $25. Children with a College Savings Plan are seven times more likely to attend college than children without a plan: www.brightstart savings.com

To learn more about United Way of Champaign County please visit: www.uwayhelps.org and www.bornlearning.org

Bright Start
A Smart Way To Save For College

United Way
of Champaign County
www.uwayhelps.org

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• Elevator Constructors LU #55
• Glaziers LU #1168
• Insulators LU #18
• Iron Workers LU #380
• Laborers LU #703 and #751
• Millwrights LU #1051
• Operating Engineers LU #841
• Painters LU #363
• Plumbers & Pipefitters LU #149
• Road Sprinklers LU #669
• Roofers LU #97
• Sheet Metal Workers LU #218
• Teamsters LU #26

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