

SCHOOL SKILLS
Check this list to see which school skills your child is learning!

- reading & writing
- math $1+2=3$
- science
- arts
- health & fitness

Ready to Play, Ready for School!

A year full of play builds bodies and brains.

Indoors, outdoors, at home and on-the-go...play your way to school success



BUILDING FINGER MUSCLES GETS KIDS READY TO WRITE.

fall

Take a size safari outdoors. Spy something huge, tiny, long, tall, short.

$1+2=3$

Fill a bag with several small objects. Take turns using your sense of touch to identify them.



Practice with scissors and an old magazine or stack of mail. Cut, cut, cut!



Cut open a few different apples. Compare how they taste and check out the seeds.



Spy on a squirrel. Document its behavior with pictures and words.



Go on a sensory walk through the woods. What do you hear, smell, see, feel?



Check out three library books you've never read before. Tell a story reading the pictures.



Pile up the leaves. Jump in them, sort them, find favorites, sew a garland, glue a card.



Create a costume from a paper bag. Cut, tape and decorate a disguise!



Build a sheet fort. Cozy up with a book and flashlight.



winter

Cut out snowflakes from foil, wax paper, coffee filters, or recycled paper.



Play basketball with crumpled up paper and laundry baskets, pots or buckets. Count the shots!

$1+2=3$

Create a collage with recycled catalogs, cards and wrapping paper.



Paint with pine needles. Bundle one end with a rubber band. Dip in paint and create!



Make gift tags and wrapping paper out of paper grocery bags. Cut, tape and decorate away.



Take a winter walk on a greenway or park trail. Find a curious hole, a funny shape, a cozy home.



Pick out a favorite book and draw new pictures to tell the story.



SCRIBBLING AND DRAWING ARE FIRST WRITING.

PLAYING WITH BOOKS LEADS TO READING.

spring

Act out a favorite book. Create a new ending or add in a new character.



Make nature rubbings. Collect leaves and flowers. Place paper on top and rub gently with a crayon.



Save the seeds from fruits and vegetables. Plant them and watch them grow!



Mix potions with colored water, a variety of containers, spoons and eye droppers.



Run an animal race. Turtle, cheetah, rabbit—they all move differently!



Slice bananas with a plastic knife and build a fruit salad.



Play outside in the rain. Collect raindrops in a cup.



Look for the first letter of your name in the grocery store. How many can you find?

$1+2=3$

Test your memory. Line up 5-10 objects. Close your eyes. Remove an object. What's missing?

$1+2=3$

Take a backyard safari to find worms, ladybugs and flowers. What's shorter, longer, smaller, bigger?

$1+2=3$

YOUNG SCIENTISTS LEARN BY ASKING LOTS OF QUESTIONS.

summer

Freeze a few small toys in water. Extract them with salt, eye droppers of hot water, tweezers and kitchen tools.



Hunt for shapes throughout your neighborhood.

$1+2=3$

Bird watch in your backyard, the park or beach. Sketch your favorites in a homemade journal.



Mix together different cereals. Sort them by size, shape, taste, texture.

$1+2=3$

Lie on the ground and cloud gaze. What creatures and stories can you find in the sky?



Squeeze, roll out and cut play dough creations to create a silly scene.



Start a nature collection in a shoe box. Add to it wherever you go. Sort sizes, shapes and colors.

$1+2=3$

Search for colors at the grocery store or farm stand. Try a new colorful veggie or fruit.



Set up a picnic or tea party outside for your favorite stuffed animal friends. Tell them a story.



Freeze paint or colored water in ice cube trays. Paint with colored cubes on the sidewalk.



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Marbles Kids Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

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