

**SCHOOL SKILLS**

See what your child is learning through play.

reading & writing

arts

math  $1+2=3$

fitness & nutrition

science

# Ready to Play, Ready for School!



Inside, outside and on-the-go...play your way to school success.

## inside

Play a game of balloon volleyball.

Turn towels into costumes. Act out your favorite story.

Cut out letters from junk mail. Spell the names of your family members.

Hole punch a paper plate. Sew with yarn or string to make a design.

Grab pots, pans and spoons and strike up a kitchen band.

Make your own puzzle. Cut a cereal box into pieces and assemble!

Make fruit or veggie skewers. Create a pattern on each stick.

Knead beads or dry beans into playdough. Use tweezers to dig them up.

Turn out the lights. Draw letters and numbers on the ceiling with a flashlight.

Trace cookie cutters. Cut out the shapes and make a collage.

Make shapes, letters and numbers out of yarn, pipe cleaners or playdough.

Sort laundry using kitchen tongs. Name the colors as you go.

Experiment with what dissolves in water. Try salt, sugar, flour, sand.

Sort spaghetti into different lengths. Estimate the length, then measure.

## outside

Do license plate math. Add, subtract or look for numbers in order.

Create a home for bugs in a clear container. Observe for a day, and let them go.

Trace your body on the sidewalk with chalk. Decorate it with a costume.

Try different ways to play tag: freeze tag, shadow tag, flashlight tag.

Lead the way with a game of follow the leader on bikes or scooters.

Write letters or numbers on a beach ball. Shout what you touch when you catch.

Try a nature toss. Collect acorns, pine cones or pebbles. Throw to hit a target.

Sprout seeds in a plastic bag with a wet paper towel. Plant them, and watch them grow.

Take a geometry walk. Find squares, circles and spheres on your way.

Fill a spray bottle with water. Squirt it on things of certain shapes or colors.

Tape shapes, letters or numbers on the driveway. Toss rocks as each is called out.

Hide treasure in your yard. Make a map to find it.

Go stargazing! Count as many stars as you can. Make up names for constellations.

Make bark rubbings with paper and crayons. Compare textures.

## on-the-go

Play *I Hear* as you walk your favorite trail. Tune in to the sounds around you.

Hum a favorite tune. Take turns guessing the song.

Make a Tic Tac Toe board with four straws. Use sugar packets as X's & O's.

Buckle a stuffed animal next to you in the car. Read it a story.

Pick a theme for your library trip. Check out fiction and nonfiction books.

Decorate a cloth bag for books. Bring reading wherever you go.

Bring puppets in the car. Put on a show for passersby.

Look out for the letters of the alphabet as you walk, ride or drive.

Visit a farmers market. Ask farmers what they grow. Try a new vegetable.

Play a game of *Rock, Paper, Scissors* or *I Spy* while you wait in line.

Pretend your park trip is an exotic destination: outer space, the jungle, Antarctica.

Ask to go behind-the-scenes at a restaurant or store. Ask what it's like to work there.

Play *Simon Says*. Simon Says put one hand on the grocery cart, hold up your fork.

IMAGINE • DISCOVER • LEARN

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

[www.MarblesKidsMuseum.org](http://www.MarblesKidsMuseum.org)

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