

Dear Families,

Did you know that speech and language skills are the building blocks for early literacy?

Kindergarten educators develop these skills throughout the day, but you play an important role as well. We have created some fun activities for you to do at home that will provide continued support of your child's speech, language and literacy skills.

Enjoy!



Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin Jr. & John Archambault

Over the next week to two weeks, watch the 4 minute 50 second video of the Chicka Chicka Boom Boom book reading on YouTube with your child several times. Reading the same book repeatedly (even if it drives you crazy!) has many benefits including building vocabulary and deeper comprehension of the story's meaning. Each time you listen to the book with your child, complete one of the following activities.

YouTube link for story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BPWk3SjKRAs>

Day 1	Before watching the story: Tell your child there's a problem in this story and when the story is over you will ask them to tell you what the problem was. During the story: From time to time, stop the story and ask your child, 'Do you think this could be the problem?' Be sure to stop the story when the tree falls over and highlight that this could be the problem. After the story: When the video is over, ask your child what the problem was in the story? Your child should respond that too many letters climbed the coconut tree, causing it to fall over and the letters falling off/getting injured/hurt.
Day 2	Today, you and your child are going to retell the story. You may choose to watch the story again to help with this. Draw a tree on a piece of paper and put it beside you and your child. Put out any alphabet letters that you have at home (e.g. magnetic letters, paper/pictures of letters). Just a few is better than the entire alphabet. Ask your child "What letter went up the tree first?" If your child responds "the letter a", have them then find that letter and put it on the paper with the tree. If your child is still learning letters, offer them a choice, the correct letter 'a' and one other letter. It's much easier to pick the correct letter from a choice of 2. Continue adding letters to the tree as you retell the story.



When all the letters are on the tree, ask your child 'How could the letters have stopped the tree from falling over?'

Day 3

Today we are going to talk about words that start with the same sound. Using the list below, say to your child, "listen to my words, 3 of my words start with the same sound and one doesn't belong. Tell me the one that doesn't belong". After each group of 4 words, see if your child can figure out the letter that made the sound. Feel free to make up more 4 word combinations to keep practicing, if you and your child are up to it.

Word List	Answer (doesn't belong)
Feet Lemon Fish Fire	Lemon – the other words start with the letter 'f'
Sun Star Sock Boat	Boat – the other words start with the letter 's'
Boy Bottle Tuna Baby	Tuna - the other words start with the letter 'b'
Ring Car Run Red	Car - the other words start with the letter 'r'
Toy Tuesday Tooth Lion	Lion – the other words start with the letter 't'
Light Snail Leg Look	Snail - the other words start with the letter 'l'
Goat Go Girl Dog	Dog – the other words start with the letter 'g'
Pig Pen Light Pretty	Light – the other words start with the letter 'p'
Mom Marshmallows Leg Monkey	Leg – the other words start with the letter 'm'
Hand Truck Home Heart	Truck – the other words start with the letter 'h'

Day 4

For today's activity, you will need upper and lower case alphabet letters as well as the paper you drew a tree on from the previous day (or you can draw a new one).

Take your piece of paper with the tree on it and put all of the lower case letters on it. Tell your child, "Oh no! The letters are all on the tree again! Chicka Chicka Boom Boom! Here comes the Mommas and the Poppas and uncles and aunts. Help the adults (upper case letter) find the lower case letters!"

	Point to a letter on the tree, give your child a selection of 3 upper case letters and see if they can match upper case to lower case for most/all of the alphabet.
Day 5	After watching the story, ask your child the questions below to practice yes/no responses. Encourage your child to expand and include the question, rather than just 'yes' or 'no'. - Did the mommas and poppas run to the coconut tree? <i>Answer: Yes they did run to the coconut tree.</i> - Did the sun go down on the coconut tree? <i>Answer: Yes the sun went down.</i> - Did the aunts and uncles dust the little letter's pants? <i>Answer: Yes the aunts and uncles dusted their pants.</i> - Did 't' have a loose tooth? <i>Answer: Yes 't' did have a loose tooth.</i> - Did 'l m n o p' come last? <i>Answer: No 'l m n o p' did NOT come last.</i> - Did 'u v w' wiggle jiggle free? <i>Answer: Yes 'u v w' wiggled jiggled free.</i> - Was there a full moon? <i>Answer: Yes there was a full moon.</i> - Did 'b' get out of bed? <i>Answer: No b did NOT get out of bed.</i>