



Recognising their name



Recognising basic shapes

# Helping to get your child set for school

Parents often ask us what they can do to help their child get ready for school. To help, we have produced this guide.



Being able to do a few key things will help your child settle into school quickly and confidently. Read through this leaflet with your child before they start school, and practise anything they are not sure about. Make practising these skills part of games which you and your child can enjoy. If you have any concerns about your child being able to do anything we cover in this leaflet, please let us know. We will make sure that we help your child when they come to school.



Getting dressed and undressed



Taking turns

## Getting dressed and undressed



Your child will need to get dressed and undressed at school. They will need to be able to take their shoes, coats and other clothes off and put them back on. Help them practise this at home. Also, provide them with clothing that is easy for them to put on and take off. So, for example, make sure their shoes are easy to put on. Shoes with velcro fastenings are a good idea.

Rosie is putting her coat on all by herself and feels very grown up.



## Taking turns

We encourage our children to take turns and share. At school they will have to wait to take their turn with games and activities. Help your child to take turns by playing games at home and with other children.

Rosie and her mum are playing with Mr Potatohead. They are having fun taking turns to put things on his face.



## Recognising basic shapes

A lot of activities your child will do in reception will involve working with shapes. Help your child to recognise basic shapes by talking about them at home. There are lots of games you can play which involve spotting shapes. You can also ask your child to look out for different shapes when they are out and about with you.

Rosie and her dad are spotting shapes. Rosie has found the triangle.



## Using pencils and scissors

Your child will be using pencils and scissors when they are at school. Help them practice holding a pencil and scissors at home. Talk about using scissors and pencils safely so that they understand that they have to be careful using them and not run with them in their hands.

Ajay and his dad are enjoying colouring in. Dad shows Ajay how to hold the crayon.







## Recognising your name

It will help your child if they can recognise their name when it is written down. They will need to identify their belongings and their coat hook and it will help them to feel confident and independent if they can do this by themselves. Help your child to do this by writing and reading their name with them.

Rosie's mum has stuck Rosie's name on her door and round the house. Rosie enjoys pointing out when she sees her name.



## Getting to know stories and nursery rhymes

As part of learning in school, we read stories and sing nursery rhymes with the children. It helps if the children are familiar with traditional stories and songs by the time they come to school. It also helps your child settle in if they are used to reading from books with an adult. If you are not sure where to start with stories and songs, please let us know and we can give you some ideas.

Ajay and his mum are reading together. Ajay enjoys listening to fairy tales and singing with his mum.



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