

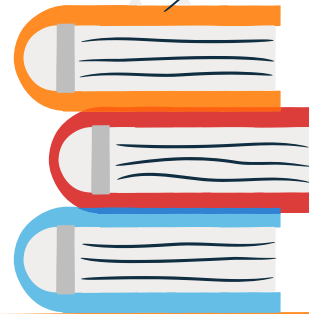
# At-Home Summer Guide for Preschoolers and Prekindergarteners (3 and 4 years old)

Week of August 3, 2020



This week continues the theme **All About Books**. Books are a wonderful way to excite the imagination and satisfy our curiosity about the world around us. Whether you've returned to your center or you're still learning at home, we invite you join us in this journey All About Books!

To make the most of the activities in this week's guide, it is recommended that you **do the activities in order** so that your child can build upon their learning throughout the week. In addition, you can help reinforce their learning by including the concepts and vocabulary learned through the activities any time you read a book with your child.



This week focuses on what is happening within a story. The week begins with taking a **picture walk** and **making predictions** about what the story will be about. Then you'll move on to **sequencing** the events of a story and identifying what happens in the beginning, middle, and end. Next your child will learn about **characters** and **setting**. To wrap up the theme, they are invited to use what they've learned to **create a book of their own**. As you move through this week's activities, don't forget to incorporate what you did last week!



## Learning Adventures

are small-group enrichment programs in our centers designed to give children experiences in cooking, STEM, phonics, and music. One activity in this guide is adapted from these programs for your use at home. It's a great way to dig deeper into areas that may interest your child.

# This Week's Theme:

# All About Books

## What you'll find in this guide. . .

We've provided activities similar to what your child would be learning in their center. You and your child can choose your own adventures and do the activities in any order you'd like, but it's recommended that this week you do them in order so that your child can build upon their learning throughout the week. Repeat and revisit them as often as you want! Click on the icons below to discover more...



### LET'S READ

#### Making Predictions

Your child practices their observation skills by making predictions about what will happen in a story just by looking at the pictures.



### LET'S READ

#### Beginning, Middle, and End

This activity is all about story structure and summarizing what happens at the beginning, middle, and end of a story.



### LET'S CREATE

#### Characters

Your child learns about characters in a story by using a familiar book and then creates their own representation of a character from the book.



### LET'S EXPLORE

#### Setting

Learn about what the setting is in a story and then select the right story for the setting.



### LET'S CREATE

#### Creating a Book

Your child uses what they've learned to create a book of their own!



### GAME TIME

#### On the Move

This game combines the fun of a board game with the energy of a movement game.



### LEARNING ADVENTURES: PHONICS ADVENTURES

#### Collaborative Storytelling

Let your child's creativity shine as you create a story together!



### VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP

#### KinderCare Read-Alouds

You and your child can listen and read along to some KinderCare original books.

# At-Home Summer Guide for Preschoolers and Prekindergarteners

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## Getting Ready for the Week: Materials to Gather

### Making Predictions:

- A children's book that is not familiar to your child

### Beginning, Middle, and End:

- The book used in the activity Making Predictions

### Characters:

- Child-size scissors
- The book used in the activity Making Predictions
- Construction paper (optional)
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- Glue stick
- Paint (optional)
- Paintbrushes (optional)
- Paper
- Paper lunch bags (optional)
- Various arts and crafts materials, such as yarn, tissue paper, fabric scraps, googly eyes, craft sticks, and pipe cleaners

### Setting:

- The book used in the activity Making Predictions

### Creating a Book:

- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- Paper
- Pencils

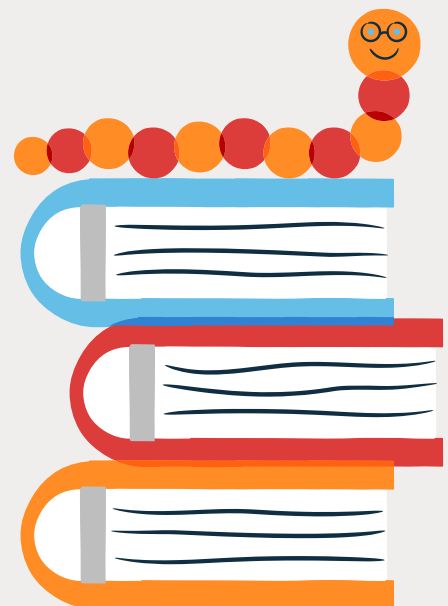
### Collaborative Storytelling:

- Paper
- Pencil
- Crayons or markers

### On the Move:

- [On the Move Game Board](#)
- [On the Move Color Cards](#)
- Game pieces (one for each player)

**Tip:** At the beginning of your week, gather materials and place them in a container so you're ready to go!



# At-Home Summer Guide for Preschoolers and Prekindergarteners

Week of August 3, 2020



## Let's Read: Making Predictions

Your child practices their observation skills by making predictions about what will happen in a story just by looking at the pictures.



**Length of activity:**  
20 minutes\*

\* Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

**Level of Engagement Required by Adult:** High



**Level of Prep Required:** Low



**What you need:**

- A children's book that is not familiar to your child

### What your child is learning:

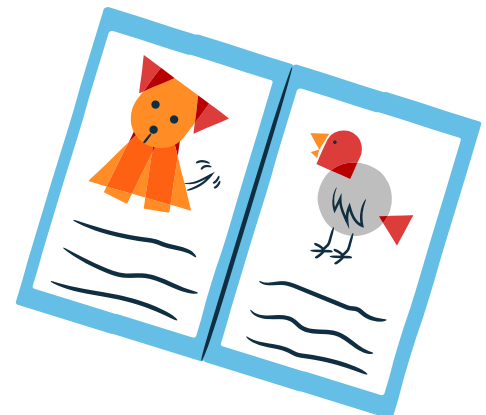
- An understanding of the relationship between pictures and text
- How to use observations to make predictions
- How to reflect on their predictions

### About the Activity:

Begin by asking your child what a prediction is. Share that a *prediction* is another word for a good guess, a guess that we can make by using what we know. Show them the cover of the book and tell them that before you read the book, you're going to look at the pictures and use the pictures to predict what the book is about.

### For your preschooler and your prekindergartener:

Beginning with the front cover, take your child on a "picture walk" through the book. As you look at the illustrations, encourage your child to make predictions about the story based on what they see. Ask questions to help prompt their thinking, such as, "What do you see in this picture?" Or "Who do you see? What are they doing?" After completing the picture walk, read the story with your child. As you read, take time to review their predictions and discuss how they compare to the story.



# At-Home Summer Guide for Preschoolers and Prekindergarteners

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## Let's Read: Beginning, Middle, and End

This activity is all about story structure and summarizing what happens at the beginning, middle, and end of a story.



**Length of activity:**  
15 minutes\*

\* Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

**Level of Engagement Required by Adult: High**



**Level of Prep Required: Low**



**What you need:**

- The book used in the activity Making Predictions

### What your child is learning:

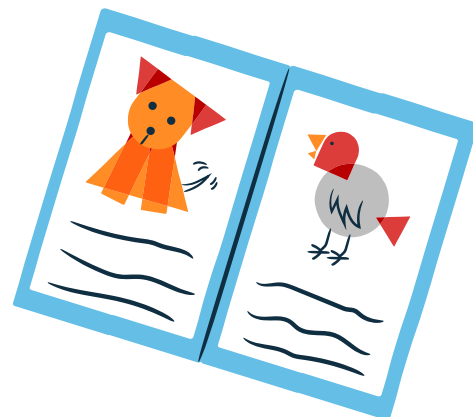
- A beginning understanding of story structure
- How to retell the main events of a familiar story in the correct sequence

### About the Activity:

Show your child the book and ask them what they remember about the story. Share that the story is what happens in a book, and most stories have a beginning, a middle, and an end. Tell them you're going to read the story again and they are going to listen for what happens at the beginning, middle, and end.

### For your preschooler and your prekindergartener:

Read the story with your child. After you've finished reading, ask them what happened at the beginning of the story. If needed, revisit the pictures at the beginning of the story to help them recall what happened. Assist them as needed in summarizing the beginning of the story. Follow the same process for the middle and the end of the story. When you've finished, repeat all parts of the summary together using the terms beginning, middle, and end.



# At-Home Summer Guide for Preschoolers and Prekindergarteners

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## Let's Create: Characters

Your child learns about characters by using a familiar book and then creates their own representation of a character from the book.



**Length of activity:**  
25 minutes\*

\* Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

**Level of Engagement  
Required by Adult:** Medium

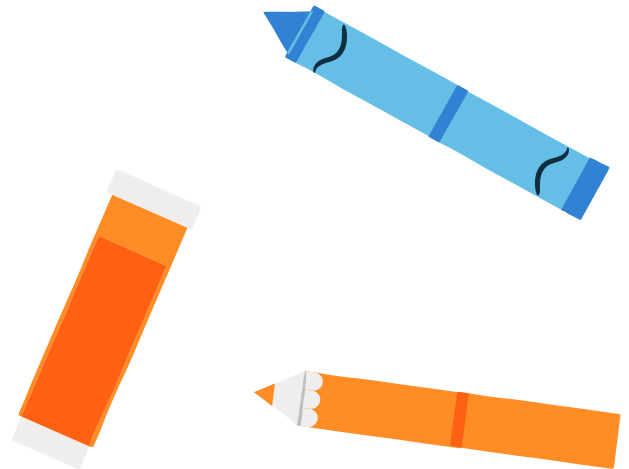


**Level of Prep Required:** High



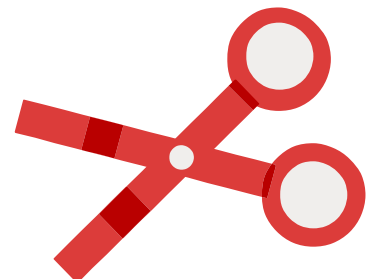
### What you need:

- Child-size scissors
- The book used in the activity Making Predictions
- Construction paper (optional)
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- Glue stick
- Paint (optional)
- Paintbrushes (optional)
- Paper
- Paper lunch bags (optional)
- Various arts and crafts materials, such as yarn, tissue paper, fabric scraps, googly eyes, craft sticks, and pipe cleaners



### What your child is learning:

- A beginning understanding of characters
- An understanding of the relationship between pictures and text
- How to create art that represents animals, people, or things



# At-Home Summer Guide for Preschoolers and Prekindergarteners

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## About the Activity:

Show your child the book and ask them to share what they remember about the story. Then tell them that in this activity they are going to learn about characters. Ask them what they know about characters. Explain that the character or characters are who the story is about. Ask your child who the characters are in the book. If needed, look through the pictures in the book and review the different characters.

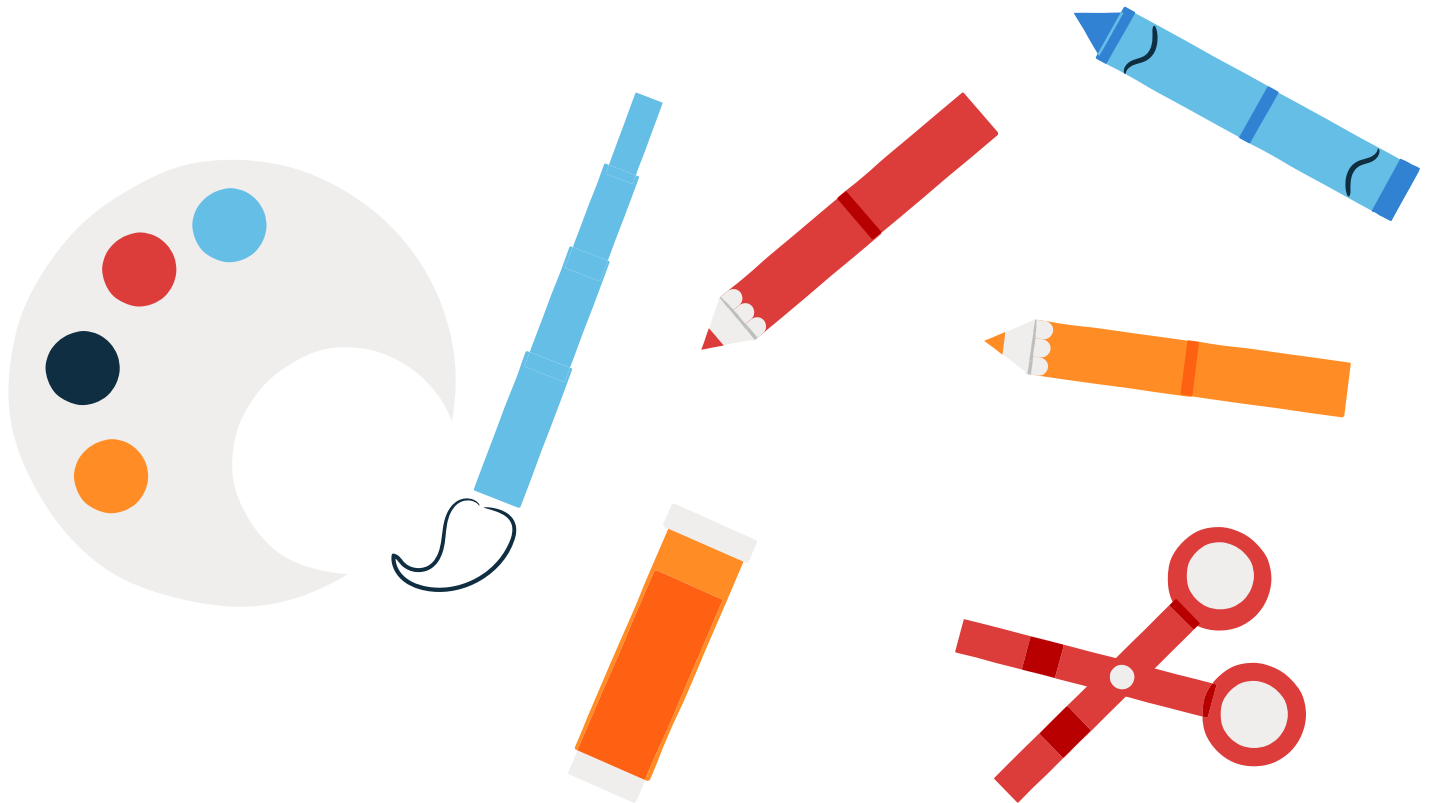
## For your preschooler and your prekindergartener:

Show your child the material you collected and invite them to use the materials to create a representation of one of the characters from the book. Depending on the materials available, they may choose to draw or paint a picture, make a paper bag or stick puppet, or use a collage technique. As they work, ask them to share what they remember about the character they selected and how they are using the materials to represent those details. Talk with them about why they selected that character and about some of the other characters they are familiar with from some of their favorite books.



## Social and Emotional Learning

Books can be a great way to help your child identify emotions and develop empathy for others. Selecting books with characters that your child can relate to, or that are going through similar situations or emotions, allows you to start a conversation with them about what they, or others, are experiencing.



# At-Home Summer Guide for Preschoolers and Prekindergarteners

Week of August 3, 2020



## Let's Explore: Setting

Learn about what the setting is in a story and then select the right story for the setting.



**Length of activity:**  
25 minutes\*

\* Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

**Level of Engagement  
Required by Adult:** Medium



**Level of Prep Required:** High



**What you need:**

- The book used in the activity Making Predictions

### What your child is learning:

- A beginning understanding of setting
- An understanding of the relationship between the setting and the story
- An understanding of the relationship between pictures and text

### About the Activity:

Show your child the book and ask them to share what they remember about the story. Then tell them that in this activity they are going to learn about setting. Ask them what they know about setting. Explain that the setting is where the story takes place, or where the characters are, such as in a house, on a bus, or in a forest. Ask your child what the setting is in the book. If needed, look through the pictures in the book and help your child determine the setting based on what they see in the pictures.

### For your preschooler or your prekindergartener:

Share that the setting is important because it influences what happens in the story. For example, if the setting of a story is the grocery store, the characters in the story couldn't paddle a boat down the river. Tell your child that you're going to explore different areas in and around your home that could be the setting for a story. You will give them two possible stories and they will decide which one makes the most sense for the setting. As you move in and around your home with your child, select a setting and then present them with two stories and ask them which makes the most sense for the setting. For example, "We are in the bathroom. Which makes more sense for a story that is set in a bathroom- a story about a family making dinner or a story about a child playing with toys in the tub?" Continue for as long as your child shows interest.



# At-Home Summer Guide for Preschoolers and Prekindergarteners

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## Let's Create: Creating a Book

Your child uses what they've learned to create a book of their own!



**Length of activity:**  
30 minutes\*

\* Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

**Level of Engagement  
Required by Adult:** High



**Level of Prep Required:** Medium



**What you need:**

- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- Paper
- Pencils

### What your child is learning:

- How to participate in group or shared writing experiences
- How to relate prior learning to new experiences
- How to use drawing, dictation, and writing to narrate several loosely linked events

### About the Activity:

Talk with your child about all the different things they have learned about books over the last two weeks.

- The parts of a book: front cover, back cover, spine, pages, and page numbers
- The role of the author, illustrator, and photographer
- How to hold a book and turn the pages
- How the pictures in books can be used to make predictions about the story
- The parts of a story: beginning, middle, and end
- How to identify the characters in a story
- How to identify the setting in a story

After reviewing all that your child has learned, invite them to use that knowledge to create their own book. As you work through the story creation process with your child, let them take the lead and guide the direction of the story. When they finish their story, encourage them to create a front and back cover for their book and to decide how they want to bind the pages, such as using a stapler or punching holes along the edge and securing the pages with yarn or string.

# At-Home Summer Guide for Preschoolers and Prekindergarteners

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Depending on your child's interest, this activity may take multiple days to complete or your child may only be interested in writing and illustrating a single page. Pay attention to your child's cues and extend the activity or cut it short based on their level of engagement.

## For Your Preschooler:

Work with your child to plan a five-page story. What is going to happen in their story? What will happen in the beginning, middle, and end? Who will the characters be? What will the setting be? Then work with them to determine how to tell this story in just five pages. Have them tell you the story they want to share in their book and help them craft their ideas into sentences. Write the story on the pages and invite your child to illustrate their story.

## For Your Prekindergartener:

Work with your child to plan a five-page story. What is going to happen in their story? What will happen in the beginning, middle, and end? Who will the characters be? What will the setting be? Then work with them to determine how to tell this story in just five pages. Have them tell you the story they want to share in their book and help them craft their ideas into sentences. Write the story on the pages and invite your child to illustrate their story. If your child is ready, invite them to use inventive spelling to write out parts of their story, helping them as needed.



# At-Home Summer Guide for Preschoolers and Prekindergarteners

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## Phonics Adventures: Collaborative Storytelling

Let your child's creativity shine as you create a story together!



**Length of activity:**  
20–30 minutes\*

\* Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

**Level of Engagement  
Required by Adult: High**



**Level of Prep Required: Low**



**What you need:**

- Paper
- Pencil
- Crayons or markers

### What your child is learning:

- The relationship between spoken and written words
- That stories have structure
- To create simple sentences to tell a story

**About the Activity:** Tell your child you'll use your imaginations to create a story where you'll work together to decide who the characters are, what the setting is, and what happens!

Write a story starter like, "Once upon a time..." or "One day, when I was..." on a sheet of paper. Ask your child to finish writing the story starter sentence. Then you write another sentence, your child adds a sentence, and so on.

If needed, give your child prompts to help them share ideas to build a story with all the key elements – characters, setting, and beginning, middle, and end. After you've both had a few chances to contribute, work together to decide how to end the story. Read it all the way through to celebrate your collaborative creativity!

Invite your child to draw a picture of their favorite part of the story using crayons or markers.

### For Your Preschooler:

Before starting, ask your child to gather a few small objects from around the house. Then, have them name one person they know and one place. Write the names of the objects, person, and place on a sheet of paper. Use each of the words in the story.

# At-Home Summer Guide for Preschoolers and Prekindergarteners

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## For Your Prekindergartener:

Before starting, ask your child to think of five alphabet letters. Write them on a sheet of paper. Then, work together to come up with one word that starts with each letter. Identify one person or pet, one place, and three things. Write down each word.

Here's an example:

M - Max

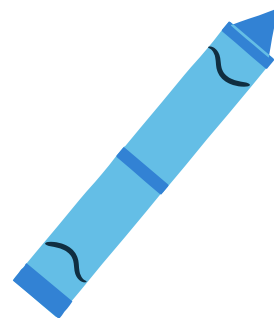
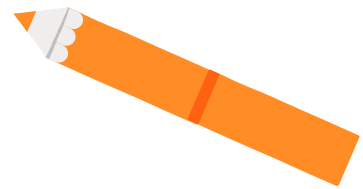
S - store

K - kite

T - tree

A - apples

Use each of the words in the story.



# At-Home Summer Guide for Preschoolers and Prekindergarteners

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## Game Time: On the Move

This game combines the fun of a board game with the energy of a movement game.

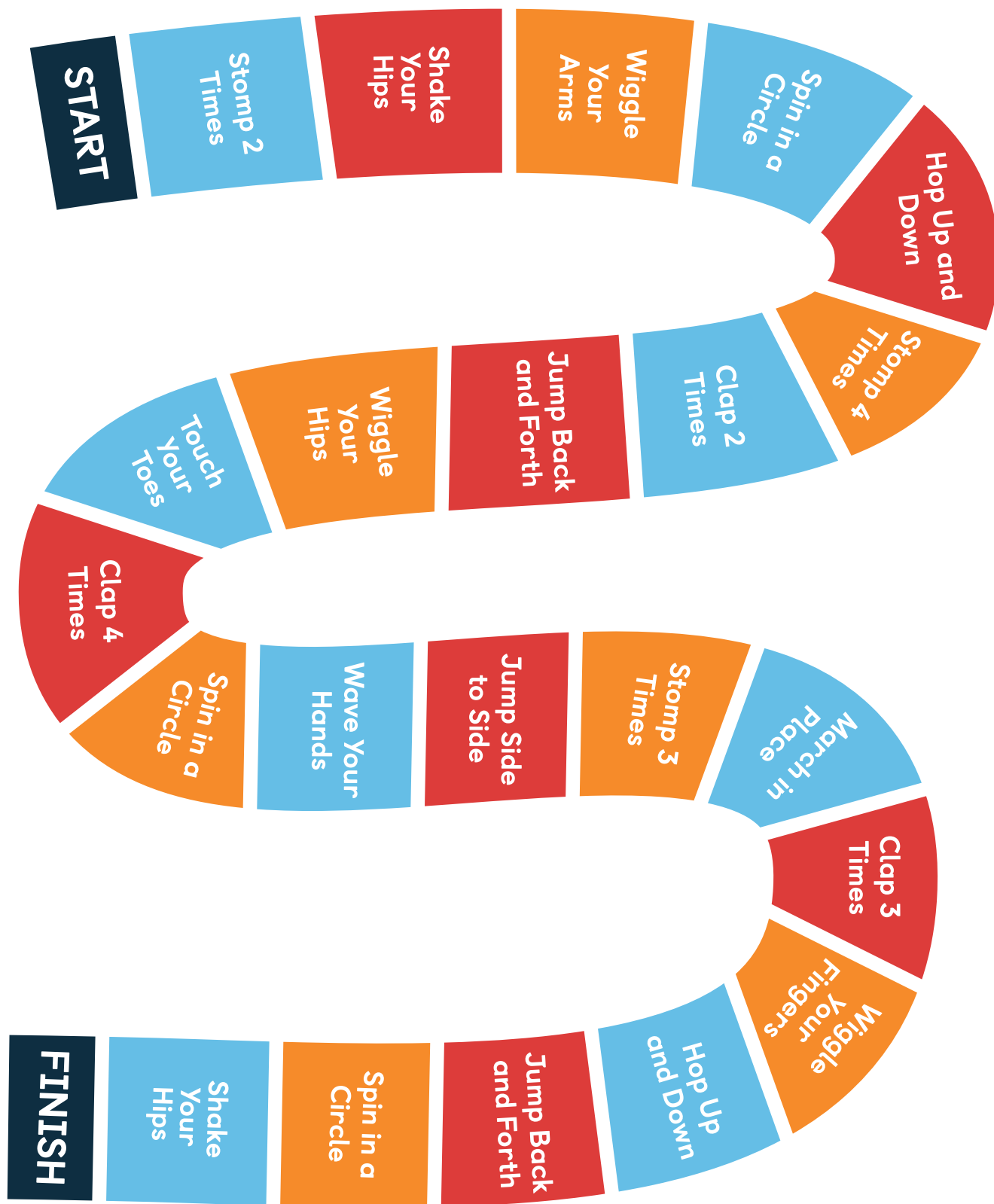
Before playing, you'll need to print one copy of the [game board](#) and one copy of the [color cards](#). Cut out the color cards and place them in a stack face down. If you're unable to print, you can draw your own game board and create your own color cards using paper and coloring materials. You'll also need one game piece for each player, such as a small toy, crayon, or a game piece from a board game.

To play, all players place their game pieces at *Start*. The first player turns over the top card in the stack and names the color on the card. Assist your child as needed in naming the color. The player then moves their game piece to the next space of that color on the game board and performs the action on the space. Then the next player does the same. Play continues until all players have reached *Finish*. Depending on the number of players, you may need to shuffle the color cards during the game to have enough for each player to reach *Finish*.

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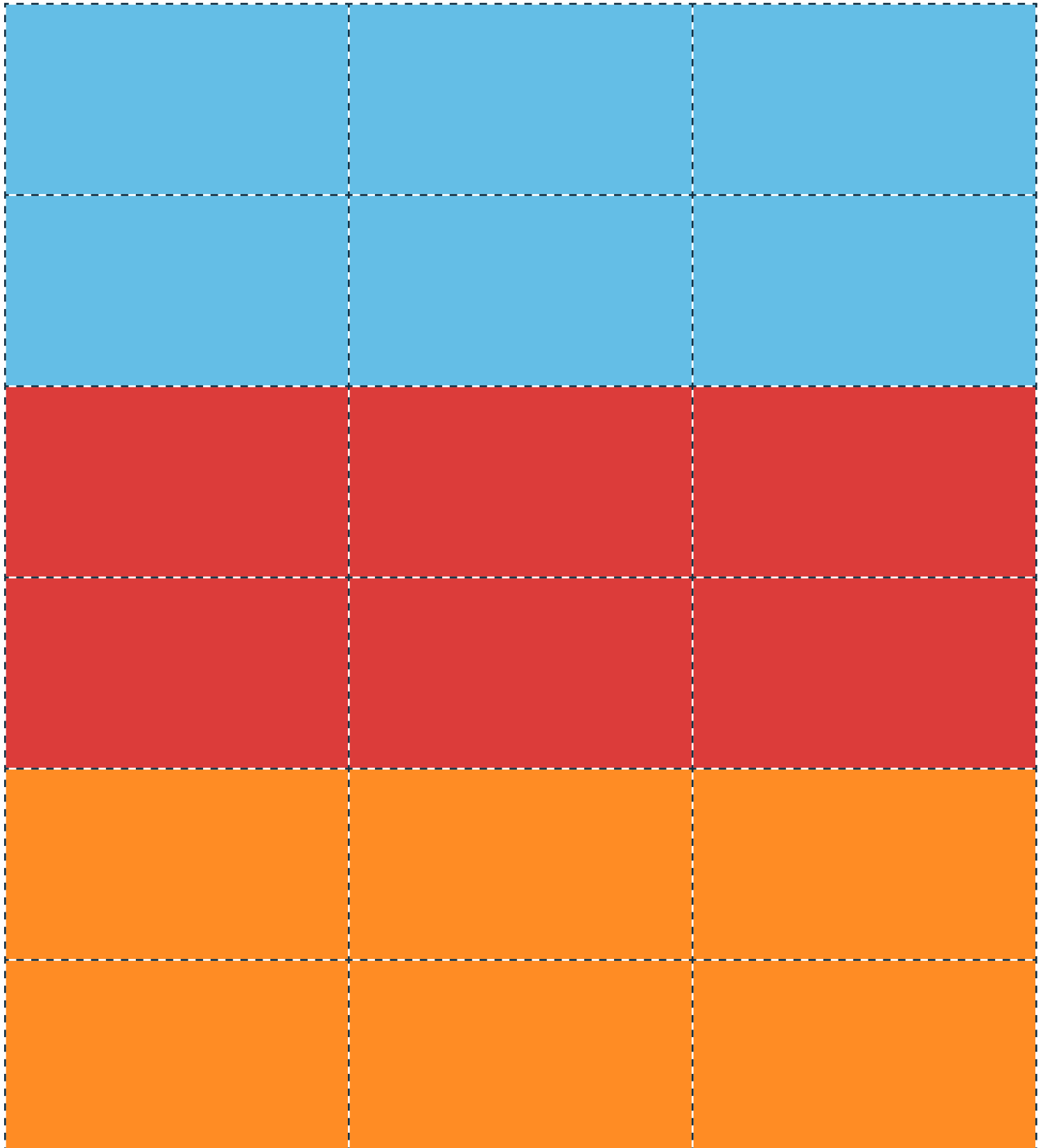
## On the Move Game Board



# At-Home Summer Guide for Preschoolers and Prekindergarteners

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## On the Move Color Cards



# At-Home Summer Guide for Preschoolers and Prekindergarteners

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## Virtual Field Trip: KinderCare Read-Alouds

You and your child can listen and read along to some KinderCare original books.

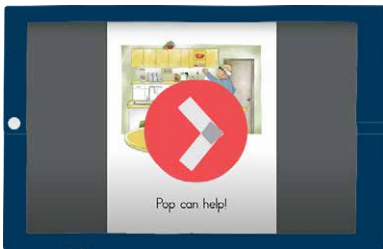
Take a trip to the [KinderCare YouTube Channel](#) and check out some read alouds of KinderCare original books used in our Phonics Adventures and Music Explorers programs.



*Five Little Ducks*



*Jan Ran*



*Pots and Pans*



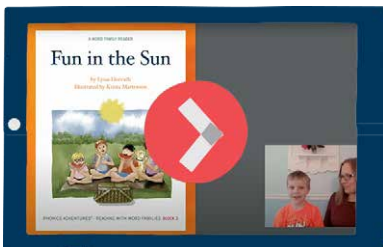
*Ten Hens*



*Wigs*



*Hop*



*Fun in the Sun*



*My Cat*