Success for the Future

Working With Your Child
Your child learns from you!

Your problem solving skills are a model for your child. You teach them appropriate ways to get along with others, handle adversity, and to think critically.

The behavior of parents becomes the basis for a child's world. One of the most important jobs we have as parents is to teach skills to our children that will help them become productive and responsible members of society. Our children look to us every day to see what we do and the way we act. They respect us and want to imitate us. Our children reflect us!

We must set good examples for our children.
Activities

With your child:

- Stand in front of a mirror so each of you can see the other’s reflection.
- Talk about what is different about each of you. *(Which of you is taller? Which has shorter hair?)*
- Talk about what makes them happy and what makes them sad.
- Talk about what you do that makes them happy or sad.
- Talk about how everyone is different in some way.
Early learning experience - success

Children are born with the senses of sound, touch, taste, sight, and smell. They reach out to objects and investigate them with much curiosity. As parents, we must encourage their curiosity to explore through play.

Young children are at work learning as they play. It is through play that they develop a love for learning. A child who gathers and displays sea shells learns basic skills in sorting, classifying, and counting. Language develops when children talk with others about their play. Encouraging a child to talk about how they sorted sea shells, for example, will strengthen their language growth.

Your child engages in many play/work activities every day. These activities nurture the likelihood of success in future school years. A parent-child partnership can make the most of activities which develop eye-hand coordination and the knowledge of shapes, colors, size, and weight. Together you and your child can build with blocks, boxes, and household items; sculpt with mud, clay, pastry, and play dough; color with crayons, markers, paint, and food coloring.

All children will attain skills at their own pace, not at yours. Be patient and compliment them often. You will be pleased at how rapidly your child will learn if praised.
Early learning experiences

With your child:

☐ Mark events on the calendar using words and pictures.
☐ Count how many more days until a special event.
☐ Listen to a parent read directions for a cake mix.
☐ Add scribble words to a grocery list, write their first name, and simple words (i.e. cat).
☐ Make birthday invitations/cards.
☐ Cut/tear out catalog pictures for a wish list.
☐ Play with and in boxes of all sizes.
☐ Experiment with kitchen items (manual can openers, spoons, spatulas, tongs, egg beaters).
☐ Sort household items by size, type, and color.
☐ Count household items to 10 or more.
What is early social development?

Social development is the ability to get along with others. For young children, social development begins as they interact with the world around them. The ability to tell others what they need, to share and cooperate with others, and use self-control enables children to succeed at home or in school.

Parents help children get along with others by setting clear limits, explaining acceptable behavior, and modeling behavior. Praising children for their efforts encourages them to practice using appropriate behaviors.
Early social development activities

With your child:

- Discuss use of toys, how to interact with friends, and how to solve problems.
- Talk about what was enjoyed during visits with friends and why. If there were problems, discuss solutions.
- Introduce a different activity when expected behavior is not displayed. Praise them when they regain control.
- Help, share, take turns, and talk through problems in daily routines.
- Visit your place of work. Point out the ways the people at work cooperate with each other. When you leave, take time to discuss what you saw.
- Look at pictures of people at work and play. Imagine and discuss conversations and social events which would require cooperation and problem solving.
- Talk about what you could do together today. Devise a plan, compromise where possible, and carry out the plan.
- Choose dolls for boys and girls to play with and talk to as people do.
What is emotional development?

Emotions are feelings which provide the key to understanding how children will react in different situations. Children experience success when their emotional reaction harmonizes with the events around them.

Children’s ability to adjust to situations may be influenced by time, place, people, and physical conditions. If children are hungry, tired, or in a crowded place, their reactions may be unacceptable. A parent’s firm, calm response will help the children regain control of their feelings and behavior.
Emotional development activities

With your child:

- Talk about successes. *(Talk with them about the skills they have already learned, like crawling, walking, and talking.)*
- Read a book and respond to the character’s feelings *(happy, sad, surprised, angry, or afraid).*
- Talk about how faces and bodies reflect emotions.
- Find pictures in newspapers, magazines, and books that show emotions. Identify these feelings and discuss them.
- Encourage use of compliments. *(Thanks for picking up your toys. You finished your meal. You are a good helper.)*
- Show affection every day. *(Hug them often. Smile when you pick them up from the babysitter. Tell them how you missed them and that you love them.)*
- Cuddle when reading and talking to children.
- Express your emotions and be truthful to children. It is important for children to know what makes us feel the way we do and how we can control our reactions. *(Dad is happy when the lawn is mowed or mom is angry about spilling the sugar.)*
- Display positive feelings about trying new activities. *(Go ahead; I know you can do it. I’m here if you need me.)*
What is early physical development?

Physical development is the growth and use of the body. Children’s natural activity develops muscle skill and body control. They use small muscles for gripping, cutting, and scribbling. They use large muscles for jumping, throwing, catching, bouncing, hopping, climbing, and running.

Physical activities for children should provide opportunities for the use of the whole body or parts of the body. Discovering how bodies move and function can be fun and exciting for children, and will impact the child’s total development.
Early physical development activities

With your child:

- Walk on a curb, a balance beam, or piece of tape on the floor *(forwards, backwards, on tip toes, and side stepping)*.
- Cut paper, cloth, or string with scissors.
- Climb the jungle gym and playground equipment.
- Use crayons, pencils, paints, and markers on paper.
- Play with clay or play dough.
- Put together puzzles.
- Build with Legos, Lincoln Logs, and blocks.
- Play with balls such as, roll, kick, bounce, catch, throw, and chase.
- Run and move on all kinds of surfaces *(sand, grass, and concrete)* in a safe way.
- Pretend to be different animals and imitate how they move *(fly like a bird, hop like a rabbit, and crawl like a caterpillar)*.
- Pour water from one container to another.
What is early reading?

Early reading is understanding pictures and words which tell the feelings, thoughts, ideas, and actions of other people. What we say, think, and do can be written for others to read. Children need help to develop vocabulary and language skills so they can express ideas and describe their experiences in conversation or in writing.

Reading and writing begin at home. Once children are in school, parent expectations and the experiences provided by parents continue to influence how much and how well children read and write.

Parents:

☐ Can guide their children through an unfamiliar world of people, places, and things;
☐ As their child’s first teachers, express ideas with words and share with their children what words mean;
☐ And children are partners in learning about the interesting world of written language;
☐ Are an enduring source of faith and encouragement; and
☐ Serve as examples for their children when they read mail, newspapers, and books.

(Suggestions from Becoming a Nation of Readers, the report of the National Commission on Reading)
Early reading activities

- Read all kinds of materials (*storybooks, magazines, newspapers, and letters*).
- Discuss the beginning, middle, and end of a story.
- Talk about the story.
- Name important characters in a story, and what they said.
- Use plenty of paper, crayons, markers, and paint to draw pictures of favorite stories. Talk about what was drawn.
- Make story puppets, costumes, or props for make-believe play.
- Point out and read signs along the road (*traffic signs, store, and restaurant signs*).
- Add items to shopping lists using their own scribble or pictures.
- Cut or tear out catalog pictures to make a wish list for special occasions.
- Read children’s recipe books to find new meals and dishes to try.
Early math is the development of logical thinking and the ability to see patterns and relationships. Through work and play with many different objects, the preschool child develops an understanding of math. In early math, children classify, sort, sequence, count, and measure with familiar objects found in the home or yard (spoons, screws, sticks, and rocks).
Collect special objects: rocks, seeds, stamps, bottle caps, and buttons. Count the objects in the collections by touching each piece. Sort the items by color, shape, and size.

Identify shapes in the environment (round clock, square table).

Count everything around you and touch each object as you count.

Find items that are the same shape or color. Count them.

Use math language whenever possible (more, less, same, longer, shorter, big, and little).

Read and share books that include numbers, counting, shapes, and colors.

Set the table with enough silverware, glasses, plates, and napkins for everyone.

Count all the trucks passed or all the cars of one color or size while traveling.

Use different sizes of containers to measure and pour water in the bath. Discover how many small containers of water it takes to fill a large container.

Measure height and weight several times a year.

Identify repeating designs in rugs, quilts, and wallpaper.

Estimate the weight, size, or amount of objects.

Talk about time and identify the clock as an instrument to measure time.
What is early science?

Early science combines questioning, logical thinking, and imagination. Through exploration, discovery, and reasoning, children become investigators seeking definitions and explanations.

Children learn science by investigating, identifying, describing, labeling, storing, retrieving information, comparing, classifying, repeating, varying, experimenting, and testing. If children are to keep alive their inborn sense of wonder, they need the companionship, support, and praise of an adult who can share in discovering the joy, excitement, and mystery of the world. (Carson, 1965)
Early science activities

With your child:

- Cook meals or treats. Measure, mix, and watch how heat or cold causes change.
- Take a walk. Stop to look at creatures that crawl, walk, and fly.
- Collect and sort leaves, flowers, and twigs. Talk about shapes, sizes, kinds, and smells.
- Play in the sand. How does it feel when it’s wet/dry?
- Play in the snow and rain. How can you change snow/rain? Try it.
- Look for the stars and moon. Talk about earth and space.
- Read temperature with a thermometer. Compare temperature in summer and winter.
- Take photographs of a special place outside in different seasons. Discuss the differences caused by seasonal weather.
- Take trips to the zoo, park, and children’s museum.
- Go fishing, camping, and hiking. Name and classify everything you see.
- Plant seeds and watch them sprout.
- Grow leaves from sweet potatoes and carrots.
- Discuss texture *(soft, hard, smooth, rough, and lumpy).* Have your child find or identify some things that have these textures.
What is early social studies?

Young children are emerging from their self-centered world to become citizens of a larger community and the world. Early social studies is learning to work and play together in harmony by sharing and identifying one’s special place within an interactive group. We teach children how to succeed in a democratic way, by addressing needs and abilities of themselves and others. By recognizing and honoring likenesses, differences, and backgrounds, we share our historical heritage with young children.
Early social studies activities

- Make choices and participate in decision making. *(You may have two cookies; which ones would you like? You may play in your room or outside; where will you play?)*
- Study geography by identifying mountains, lakes, oceans, rivers, and creeks in pictures or as you travel.
- Teach patriotism by identifying the American and state flags when you see them in public places.
- Say the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Use maps. Highlight roads you will be taking.
- Identify family events.
- Talk about history and changes through the generations *(parents and grandparents).*
- Talk about family events.
- Discuss duties and responsibilities of being a good citizen and choosing between right and wrong. *(Dispose of trash properly, help a person in need.)*
- Take turns and use good manners in a group.
- Identify community helpers as you visit their work places or look at pictures *(police officers, firefighters, rescue workers, doctors, nurses, teachers, and others).*
- Give a small allowance to teach responsibility and decision making.
What is early health?

Early health is the development of personal habits to use for a lifetime. We are careful to teach children to take good care of their bodies by maintaining proper nutrition, exercise, and hygiene to stay healthy and happy. By taking care of their bodies, we instill a positive attitude toward wellbeing.
Early health activities

With your child:

- Play games that name external body parts (eyes, ears, arms, elbows, feet, toes, knees, waist, wrists, jaw, ankles, and heel).
- Do simple exercises (bend, jump, hop, twist, throw, catch, and kick). Add music for variety.
- Plan and abide by a regular bedtime.
- Encourage quiet rest time for thinking or reading.
- Eat nutritious meals.
- Discuss appropriate ways to prevent or care for a cold. Include appropriate dress for the weather, sanitary use of tissues, and care to avoid the spread of cold germs.
- Reinforce the message that drugs are harmful and that it is appropriate to “Just Say No.”
- Teach the skills required to wash hands and brush teeth regularly.
- Describe the difference between sick people and well people.
- Discuss how a child tells someone when he or she is feeling sick.
Preschool list

My child:

Language
- Identifies colors of clothes, food, and objects.
- Says full name.
- Enjoys listening and sharing stories.
- Chooses books for pleasure.
- Uses pictures to tell stories.
- Names body parts.
- Follows one- or two-step directions.
- Speaks clearly- does not use “baby talk.”
- Holds a conversation and answers questions.
- Matches objects (socks, shoes, gloves, silverware, and books).

Math
- Talks about the shapes of objects in the environment.
- Counts up to 10.
- Touches each object as it’s counted.
- Identifies numbers 0-10.
- Notices patterns in rugs, wallpaper, and quilts.
- Plays games that involve counting (games with dice, dominoes, and board games).
- Measures objects found in the home.
Activities

Physical
☐ Plays games that include: jumping, hopping, and balancing.
☐ Balances on one foot, then the other for five seconds.
☐ Uses crayons, brushes, pencils, markers, scissors, clay, and puzzles.
☐ Throws, catches, and bounces a ball.
☐ Uses hammer, nails, screws, and other tools safely.

Social
☐ Takes responsibilities at home (sets table, cleans up toys).
☐ Makes choices (Do you want a cheese or peanut butter sandwich?)
☐ Thinks and then talks.
☐ Takes turns.
☐ Shares with others.
Libraries

Regional libraries

Chinn Park Regional Library
13065 Chinn Park Drive
Prince William, Virginia  22192
703.792.4800
http://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/library/Pages/Chinn-Park-Regional-Library.aspx

Bull Run Regional Library
8051 Ashton Avenue
Manassas, Virginia  20109
703.792.4500

Community libraries

Central Library
8601 Mathis Avenue
Manassas, Virginia  22111
703.361.8211
http://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/library/Pages/Central-Community-Library.aspx

Potomac Library
2201 Opitz Boulevard
Woodbridge, Virginia  22191
703.494.8126
http://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/library/Pages/Potomac-Community-Library.aspx

Haymarket/Gainesville Library
14870 Lightner Road
Haymarket, VA 20169
http://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/library/Pages/Library-Building-Projects.aspx#gainesville

Montclair Library
5049 Waterway Drive
Dumfries, VA 22025
http://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/library/Pages/Library-Building-Projects.aspx#montclair
Neighborhood libraries

Dale City Neighborhood Library
4249 Dale Boulevard
Dale City, Virginia  22193
703.680.4716

Dumfries Neighborhood Library
18007 Dumfries Shopping Plaza
Dumfries, Virginia  22026
703.221.2268

Independent Hill Neighborhood Library
George Hellwig Memorial Park
14418 Bristow Road
Manassas, Virginia  22111
703.791.4469

Lake Ridge Neighborhood Library
12964 Harbor Drive
Woodbridge, Virginia  22192
703.491.2218

Nokesville Neighborhood Library
12993 Fitzwater Drive
Nokesville, Virginia  22123
703.594.2124
Recreation centers

Prince William County Parks and Recreation
14420 Bristow Road
Manassas, Virginia  22110
703.335.7060
24-Hour Hotline 703.335.PARK

Some of the programs offered include fitness programs, concerts, canoe trips, craft-making, dance, and martial arts courses. The Park Authority maintains nature and fitness trails, boating areas, swimming pools, and exercise facilities. It offers baseball, softball, football, and soccer leagues, and tournaments throughout the year.
Interesting places to visit in Prince William County

**Historic Occoquan**
State Route 123
Occoquan, VA
http://historicoccoquan.com/

**Leesylvania State Park**
16236 Neabsco Road
Woodbridge, VA
http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/
leesylvania#general_information

**Manassas Museum**
9101 Prince William Street
Manassas, VA
http://visitmanassas.org/listing/manassas-
museum/

**Manassas Battlefield**
6511 Sudley Road
Manassas, VA
http://www.nps.gov/mana/index.htm

**Prince William Forest Park**
State Route 619, West
Triangle, VA
http://www.nps.gov/prwi/index.htm

**Prince William Parks**
14420 Bristow Road
Manassas, VA
Pages/default.aspx?aspxerrorpath=/Pages/
default.aspx
Interesting places to visit beyond Prince William County

Hidden Pond Nature Center
8511 Greeley Boulevard
West Springfield, VA 22150
http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-pond/

National Air and Space Museum
Independence Ave at 6th St, SW
Washington, DC 20560
https://airandspace.si.edu/

Reston Zoo
1228 Hunter Mill Road
Vienna, VA 22180
http://www.restonzoo.com/

National Children’s Museum
145 Fleet Street, Box 202
National Harbor, MD 20745
http://www.ncm.museum/

Rock Creek Nature Center and Planetarium
5200 Glover Park, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20015
http://www.nps.gov/rocr/planyourvisit/naturecenter.htm

Science Museum of Virginia
2500 West Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23220
http://www.smv.org/

Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center
717 General Booth Boulevard
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
http://www.virginiaaquarium.com/

Children’s Museum of Richmond
2626 West Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23220
http://www.c-mor.org/

Frying Pan Park
2709 West Ox Road
Herndon, Virginia 20171
http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/fryingpanpark/
Songs

Jack and Jill (song)
Jack and Jill went up the hill
To fetch a pail of water.
Jack fell down and broke his crown,
And Jill came tumbling after!

I have ten little fingers
I have ten little fingers,
And they all belong to me.
I can make them do things -
Do you want to see?
I can raise them up high,
I can put them down low,
I can put them together
And rest them just so.

Five little monkeys
Five little monkeys, jumping on a bed.
One fell off and bumped his head.
His mother called the doctor and
The doctor said, No more monkeys
Jumping on the bed!
Four little monkeys, etc...
Itsy bitsy spider (song)
The itsy bitsy spider climbed up the water spout.
Down came the rain and washed the spider out.
Out came the sun and dried up all the rain.
So the itsy bitsy spider went up the spout again!

There was a little turtle
There was a little turtle (Make fist for turtle.)
Who lives in a box. (Draw square shape with pointer finger.)
He swam in the puddles. (Move fingers like swimming.)
And he climbed on the rocks. (Have fingers crawl over fist of other hand.)
He snapped at a mosquito. (Make snapping motion with hand.)
He snapped at a flea,
He snapped at a minnow,
And he snapped at me. (Point to self.)
He caught the mosquito, (Use two hands in catching motion.)
He caught the flea.
He caught the minnow.
But he didn’t catch me! (Shake head no.)
1, 2 Buckle my shoe

1, 2   Buckle my shoe
3, 4   Knock on the door
5, 6   Pick up sticks
7, 8   Lay them straight
9, 10  Do it again!

1, 2   Buckle my shoe
3, 4   Knock on the door
5, 6   Pick up sticks
7, 8   Lay them straight
9, 10  A big fat hen!

Two little blackbirds (Fingerplay)

Two little Blackbirds *(Show two fingers.)*
Sitting on a hill,
One named Jack *(Show one finger.)*
And one named Jill *(Show one finger on other hand.)*
Fly away, Jack, *(Hide one finger behind back.)*
Fly away, Jill! *(Hide other hand and finger behind back.)*
Come back, Jack, *(Return one hand to front.)*
Come back, Jill. *(Return other hand to front.)*
Two little Blackbirds sitting on a hill!
Make play dough together

Play dough recipe

2 cups of flour
1 cup of salt
2 tablespoons of cooking oil
1 tablespoon of cream of tartar
1 cup of water with food coloring added

Mix ingredients. Heat in pan and stir constantly until dough pulls away from pan and forms a lump. Knead the dough and store in plastic bag or butter tub. Play with it often to strengthen small muscles and develop eye-hand coordination.
Rewards

Coupons

Give these coupons to reward performance or behavior.
GOOD FOR AN EXTRA HUG!

Reward for Outstanding Performance or Behavior

_____ Minutes of Reading

with _____________

GOOD JOB!

Collect any 2 Coupons for a Special Reward.

Reward for Outstanding Performance or Behavior

_____ Minutes of Reading

with _____________

Good Job!
School Board
Mr. Ryan Sawyers
Chairman

Mrs. Lillie G. Jessie
Vice Chairman
Occoquan District

Mr. William J. Deutsch
Coles District

Ms. Diane L. Raulston
Neabsco District

Mrs. Alyson A. Satterwhite
Gainesville District

Mr. Gil Trenum
Brentsville District

Mr. Justin David Wilk
Potomac District

Ms. Loree Y. Williams
Woodbridge District

Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Steven L. Walts

Superintendent's Staff
Ms. Rae E. Darlington
Deputy Superintendent

Mr. William G. Bixby
Associate Superintendent for Middle Schools

Mr. David S. Cline
Associate Superintendent for Finance and Support Services

Mr. R. Todd Erickson
Associate Superintendent for Central Elementary Schools

Mr. Craig H. Gfeller
Associate Superintendent for Eastern Elementary Schools

Mrs. Rita Everett Goss
Associate Superintendent for Student Learning and Accountability

Mrs. Jarcelynn M. Hart
Associate Superintendent for Western Elementary Schools

Mr. Keith A. Imon
Associate Superintendent for Communications and Technology Services

Mr. Keith J. Johnson
Associate Superintendent for Human Resources

Mr. Michael A. Mulgrew
Associate Superintendent for High Schools

Prince William County Public Schools (PWCS) does not discriminate in employment or in its educational programs and activities against qualified individuals on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, age, marital status, veteran status, or disability. PWCS provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individual will handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies, including Section 504 and Title IX:

Associate Superintendent for Human Resources
Prince William County Public Schools, P.O. Box 389, Manassas, VA 20108