LANGUAGE

Toddler	Pre-School	Pre-Kindergarten	Kindergarten
Language Development	Language Development	Language Development	Language Development
Knows 250-300 words Builds vocabulary through spoken language Begins to recognize own limits Speaks in sentences of five or more words Participates in song singing Sits and listens attentively during circle time Matches letter symbols and objects Identifies some letters of the alphabet Practices letter sounds	Identifies some or all of the following sets of sounds and symbols: • a, m, s, t, and p • e, b, g, l, and v • i, c, f, h, and r • o, d, k, j, and n • u, q, w, x, y, and z Rhymes words Makes and recognizes patterns Understands opposite words (up/down, above/below, long/short, etc.)	Identifies all of the following sets of sounds and symbols: • a, m, s, t, and p • e, b, g, l, and v • i, c, f, h, and r • o, d, k, j, and n • u, q, w, x, y, and z Uses letter sounds in activities like "tongue twisters" Demonstrates knowledge of most letter sounds of the alphabet Identifies initial and middle sounds in spoken and written words Practices creative writing and storytelling	Builds vocabulary through spoken language

Introduced to tracing sandpaper letters	Builds three-letter words and/or own name	Identifies phonetic words using matching pictures	
Assembles simple puzzles of up to 25 pieces	Sequences letter A through Z		
Completes letter puzzle			
Completes "Three Period Lesson"			
Makes choices between two things			
Begins to recognize cause-and-effect relationships			
Recognizes body part			
Reading Comprehension	Reading	Reading Comprehension	Reading Comprehension
Reading Comprehension No formal requirements	Reading Comprehension No formal requirements	Reading Comprehension Reads three-to four- letter words	Reading Comprehension Reads short words and phrases phonetically
	Comprehension		Reads short words and
	Comprehension		Reads short words and phrases phonetically
No formal requirements	Comprehension No formal requirements	Reads three-to four- letter words	Reads short words and phrases phonetically Reads sight words
No formal requirements Composition	Comprehension No formal requirements Composition	Reads three-to four- letter words Composition Builds or writes three-to-four letter	Reads short words and phrases phonetically Reads sight words Composition Builds or writes three- to

			Phonetically isolates vowel sounds and notices blends if present Uses a pencil with the proper pincer grasp Shows refinement of penmanship Builds and writes own sentences and small stories with support
Pre-Handwriting	Handwriting	Handwriting	Handwriting
No formal requirements	Learns how to hold a writing/ coloring material properly	Learns to trace and write letters accurately Uses a pencil with the proper pincer grasp Writes own name Shows refinement of penmanship	Composes sentences focused on letter sounds Builds and writes three- to four-letter words phonetically Uses a pencil with the proper pincer grasp Shows refinement of penmanship

Grammar	Grammar	Grammar	Grammar
No formal requirements	No formal requirements	Introduced to parts of speech:	Introduced through games and play Has awareness of categories of words:
Spelling	Spelling	Spelling	Spelling
No formal requirements	No formal requirements	Builds and writes three-to-four-letter words phonetically	Builds and writes three- to four-letter words phonetically Isolates vowel sounds and notices blends if present