

# What can I do to make sure my child is ready for Kindergarten?

Literacy skills develop over time and through a variety of experiences.

Early readers and writers need practice and encouragement to become confident. You help your child to have strong literacy skills by giving your child opportunities to:

- visit the library
- sing songs
- look at books
- pretend to read
- label pictures
- pretend to write letters in the alphabet
- write names of familiar people



Teachers want for Kindergarteners to:

Have *phonological awareness* skills. Phonological awareness is the ability to hear all of the sounds within words. Parents can help by:

- ❑ **Singing** songs like "Old MacDonald" and "The Itsy Bitsy Spider" with their child to help them develop the ability to hear the many sounds in words.
- ❑ **Reading rhyming words** (*words that sound the same*) in **stories** like "The Cat in the Hat" by Theodore Geisel (Dr. Seuss), **songs** like "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" and **poems** like "Humpty Dumpty" to your child. When words rhyme, reading is fun and seems very easy. Children start to feel confident!

Order your free "Nursery Rhymes" audio CD by calling NH PIRC today!

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NH State PIRC (Parent Information and Resource Center) [www.nhpirc.org](http://www.nhpirc.org)

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