

Getting Ready for Nursery

There are lots of ways to help your child get ready for nursery. Here are some key skills you can practise together at home.

Ask a grown-up to help you practise:

- following simple instructions, such as to collect or put away an object;
- asking simple questions and talking in sentences;
- kicking and catching a large ball;
- holding and using pencils, crayons or paintbrushes to make marks;
- moving in different ways, such as hopping, jumping and running;
- taking turns when playing games together;
- using a spoon to eat and a cup to drink;
- using the toilet and washing and drying your hands;
- putting on your coat and shoes;
- talking about stories you've read together;
- saying number names in order to five;
- playing counting and number games;
- talking about people who are special to you and special occasions for your family;
- talking about what you see in the world around you;
- creating sounds and singing songs;
- playing make-believe games by pretending.

Other things you can do:

- Ask a grown-up to write your name into all your clothes, including your coat.
- Practise talking about things you like and enjoy doing. What are your favourite toys to play with? What do you like doing with your family at home?
- Talk about how you are feeling. Can you tell a grown-up when you feel happy or sad?
- Read stories together and sing songs and nursery rhymes. What is your favourite story? Can you sing your favourite nursery rhyme?
- Talk about coming to nursery. Do you know anyone else who will be at your nursery? What are you looking forward to?