DIGITAL BACKPACK
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

For the last few months, your kids have been at home from school, giving you the added responsibility of creating educational experiences at home. We applaud you for finding creative ways to make sure learning is always fun and exciting.

Running out of ideas? We're here to help! We've expanded our At-Home Learning service to keep your children learning all summer long with a new digital backpack designed to help students have fun while learning at home.

The resources inside this digital backpack include:

- Family learning guide for English Language Arts
- Family reading list
- Printable hands-on activities
- Tips for balancing screen time
- PBS KIDS programming learning goals and reflection guide
- PBS KIDS apps and associated learning goals

Want more resources? Sign up for our e-newsletter at wfsu.org/education. To get free bilingual resources sent directly to your phone, text WFSU to 27448.*

Feel free to reach out to us with questions. We would love to see photos of families learning with the digital backpack! E-mail us at education@wfsu.org.

The WFSU Education Team

*Standard message and data rates apply.
You may opt-out of these messages at any time by texting STOP to 27448.
To help families understand English Language Arts standards for Kindergarten students, we have prepared this Family Learning Guide with specific literacy skills students are expected to have by the end of Kindergarten. We’ve also included activities you can do at home to prepare your child for school and make English Language Arts fun and exciting.

**Reading**
- Follow print from left to right and top to bottom
- Name all upper- and lower-case letters and their sounds
- Recognize own name in print
- Identify and say rhyming words
- Count syllables, pronounce and blend letters in spoken words
- Ask and answer questions about details in a story
- Explain how the illustrations in a book relate to the story
- Compare and contrast characters and adventures between stories
- Ask and answer questions about unknown words
- Retell the story in own words and identify the characters, setting and important events

**Family Tips for At-Home Learning**
- Practice reading skills by reading together
- Encourage children to act out parts of a story
- Point out the words on the page and move your fingers from left to right while reading
- Ask children questions before, during, and after reading
- Sound out new words and use illustrations and context clues to help your child understand the meaning of words

**Writing**
- Write all upper- and lower-case letters
- Spell words out based on their sounds
- Use capital letters for I and when beginning sentences
- Use questions words like who, what, where, when, how, and why
- Use correct punctuation and identify the names of punctuation marks
- Use preposition words like to, from, in, out, on, off, for, of, by, and with
- Use drawing and writing to form a summary about a book to retell facts of a story
- Improve and elaborate on writing with adult guidance
- Share personal thoughts and opinions about stories
- Create and expand sentences to give more details

**Family Tips for At-Home Learning**
- Encourage children to look at letters and words on food packaging, road signs, and other places in their daily lives
- Take turns writing words and sentences and eventually stories
- Help children trace and copy written words
**Knowledge of Language**

- Understand verbs and adjectives
- Sort objects into categories (e.g., color, shapes)
- Identify the opposites of words
- Make real-life connections between words
- Figure out the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases
- Use affixes (-ed, -s, re-, un-, pre-, -ful, -less) as clues to understand the meaning of words
- Use words and phrases they learn through conversations, reading, and being read to
- Understand different meanings with words describing the same general action like walk, march, and prance

**Family Tips for At-Home Learning**

- Play games with students using everyday household objects, such as I SPY. Give your child clues to help them find objects around them (e.g., “I spy something red and round”)
- Help them identify the opposite word of objects they find around the house (e.g., “Is a fork the opposite of a spoon?”)
- Sort objects you see around the neighborhood or at the store
- Encourage your child to sort toys by categories like color, size, shape and features

**Speaking, Listening, Comprehension and Collaboration**

- Participate in conversations with peers and adults using agreed-upon rules such as listening to others and taking turns speaking
- Stop a conversation and continue it later
- Ask and answer questions about texts and key details
- Ask questions when something is not understood or they need help

**Family Tips for At-Home Learning**

- Help children practice speaking and listening to other children and adults
- Encourage active participation in conversations by taking turns talking, listening and asking questions while speaking with others

**Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas**

- Describe familiar people, places, things, and events in detail
- Add drawings to descriptions to provide additional details
- Speak clearly and at an appropriate volume to express thoughts, feelings and ideas

**Family Tips for At-Home Learning**

- Build self-confidence and speaking skills by having children practice sharing their thoughts and ideas about books they read, games they play and TV shows they watch
- Ask questions and demonstrate to children how they can answer the question using part of the question in their response. (e.g., Ask, “Why do you think the bear ate the sandwich?” and your child can reply with, “The bear ate the sandwich because he was hungry”)

![wfsu logo](image)
Family Reading List
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Reading time can be an easy and fun way to introduce and reinforce literacy skills at home. Check with your local public library to access these books online or click on the book covers to watch a read aloud of the story.

**Arthur Writes a Story**
By Marc Brown
Ages: 4 to 8

**Alma and How She Got Her Name**
By Juana Martinez-Neal
Ages: 4 to 7

**Molly of Denali: Crane Song**
By Princess Daazhraii Johnson & WGBH
Ages: 4 to 8

**You Matter**
By Christian Robinson
Ages: 5+
Family Activity
LITERACY SKILLS

Trace Words on the Sidewalk

Help your child learn to spell her name or other words in this outdoor literacy activity, all while learning fine motor skills and the concept of tracing.

Materials

- Small tub filled with water
- Sidewalk chalk
- A flat stretch of pavement
- Large paintbrush (choose one with a handle appropriate for your child’s hand size)

Directions

1. Using the chalk, write your child’s name. Help younger children with letter recognition by writing one letter at a time. Older children can practice sight words.
2 Offer your child a small tub of water and a paintbrush. Ask your child to trace over the chalk, using water and the paint brush. The water will wash away the chalk as your child practices writing.

3 Ready for more of a challenge? Instead of letters, write dots that your child will connect into letters.

Explore Further

Use numbers or shapes to turn this into a math activity. Draw shapes, numbers or equations to help build your child’s math skills.

Jamie Reimer learned to be a hands-on mom by creating activities, crafts and art projects for her three boys to do and shares them on hands on : as we grow. Jamie uses the creative outlet as a way to get through the early years of parenting with a smile!
When you go back to school, there may be some things that are the **SAME**, **NEW**, or **DIFFERENT** from before. You may have questions about school or about things that are changing. Talk with your family about your questions and about your feelings. You can use the boxes below to draw pictures, cut and paste pictures, or write about what might be the **SAME**, **NEW**, or **DIFFERENT**. Here are some examples: Your teacher or caregiver will be the same. Your classroom will be new. Mealtimes at school will be different.
Directions: Take a moment to reflect on your learning from the PBS KIDS episode you watched. Then answer the questions below. To view At-Home Learning schedules for educational programming airing on WFSU and WORLD, visit wfsu.org.

**What did you learn from this episode?** Discuss with your child key ideas and details. Briefly explain why these details are important to you, the community, and the world.

**How can you connect the learning in this episode to everyday learning at home?**
For example, if you watched an episode about counting, you and your child can expand this learning at home by counting items during daily routines like doing laundry or washing dishes.

**After watching this episode, what do you want to learn more about?**
We don’t replace reading, we complement reading

Reading is a skill and left untouched for several months, that skill will get weaker! The best part of free time reading is that you get to choose what you want to read!

Screen zombies are real

Screen zombies are in a halfway state between being awake and being asleep. When you see a zombie, there are two main recommendations: if it’s not bedtime, tell the zombie to turn off the screen and do something active. And if it is bedtime, go to bed!

Find your balance

Screens can be used for things that are BOTH entertaining and informative. Find your balance: watch your movies, but also write a short story. Watch an episode of Nature about cute animals. Design a game. WhatsApp your grandparents.

Adjust your screens at night

We know that bright screens keep people awake—even if the brain and body are tired, bright lights send a strong wake-up signal. After the sun goes down, turn down the intensity of screens.

People with screens in their bedrooms sleep on avg 15 min less per night. That’s almost 2 hrs less sleep per week!
OUTDOOR EXPLORATION APPS

Nature Cat's Great Outdoors  Go on a new adventure every day with the Nature Cat crew as they explore, discover and observe nature in their own backyard and beyond! Kids can observe the daily weather and use a compass, camera, sound recorder and journal to record each nature adventure. **FREE**

Ready Jet Go! Space Explorer  Kids can explore the solar system and visit planets, stars and constellations with Jet and his friends. Go on a galactic journey with Jet, Sydney, Sean, Mindy and Sunspot from their backyard in Boxwood Terrace through space! **FREE**

Wild Kratts Baby Buddies  Join Martin, Chris, and the Wild Kratts team on an African Savannah creature sitting adventure. These baby animals need a lot of attention and care, and with Wild Kratts Baby Buddies app, kids are in charge of feeding, washing, protecting and playing with each one.

Splash and Bubbles Ocean Adventure  Join Splash, Bubbles, Dunk, and Ripple on a journey to the world’s undersea habitats. Kids will discover the creatures that live there, learn about many different plants and animals, and build and decorate their very own ocean!

Wild Kratts World Adventure  Kids can tilt and tap their way through six multi-level games that encourage exploration of habitats around the world. Focusing on science, each game lets kids observe, explore and use creature power suits to complete missions and help the Kratt Brothers.

Outdoor Family Fun with Plum  Get ready for some Outdoor Family Fun with Plum! This app offers daily activities that get families outside, exploring their neighborhood and learning about nature. Spending time outdoors has many benefits and nature is all around – you just have to look! **FREE**

Photo Stuff with Ruff  In this camera-based experience, children learn about science by taking pictures of different materials to complete silly scenes. Play it together and record and share your observations in fun, creative ways! **FREE**

Look for more APPS for iOS and Android at pbskids.org/apps
## PBS KIDS Learning Goals

### SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING
- Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood 2-4 Social & Emotional Learning
- Sesame Street 2-5 Social & Emotional Learning, Literacy, Math, Spanish
- Caillou 2-5 Social & Emotional Learning
- Esme & Roy 2-5 Social & Emotional Learning
- Clifford the Big Red Dog 3-5 Social & Emotional Learning
- Mister Rogers' Neighborhood 3-6 Social & Emotional Learning
- Arthur 4-8 Social & Emotional Learning, Social Studies
- Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum 5-8 Social & Emotional Learning

### LITERACY
- Super WHY! 2-5 Literacy
- WordWorld 2-5 Literacy
- Martha Speaks 4-8 Literacy (Vocabulary Acquisition)
- Molly of Denali 4-8 Literacy (Informational Text)
- WordGirl 5-8 Literacy (Vocabulary Acquisition)

### SOCIAL STUDIES, THE ARTS & MORE
- Pinkalicious & Peterrific 3-6 The Arts, Creative Expression
- Let's Go Luna! 4-7 Social Studies (World Cultures and Geography)
- Kart Kingdom 3-6 Systems Thinking
- Oh Noah! 4-8 Spanish, Cultural Awareness

### STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)
- Peep and the Big Wide World 2-5 Science Inquiry, Life/Physical Science, Math
- Splash and Bubbles 2-5 Scientific Inquiry, Life Science
- Peg + Cat 3-5 Math
- Curious George 3-5 Scientific Inquiry, Engineering, Math
- The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That! 3-6 Scientific Inquiry, Life/Earth/Physical Science, Engineering & Technology
- Dinosaur Train 3-6 Scientific Inquiry, Life/Earth Science
- Sid the Science Kid 3-6 Scientific Inquiry, Life/Earth/Physical Science, Math
- Nature Cat 3-7 Life/Earth Science
- Wild Kratts 4-8 Scientific Inquiry, Life Science
- Cyberchase 4-8 Math
- Odd Squad 5-8 Math
- Ready Jet Go! 5-8 Scientific Inquiry, Earth & Space/Life/Physical Science, Engineering & Technology

### Digital-Only
- The Ruff Ruffman Show 4-8 Scientific Inquiry, Physical Science, Engineering & Technology
- Design Squad Nation 4-8 Scientific Inquiry, Physical Science, Engineering
- PBS KIDS ScratchJr 5-8 Computational Thinking
- SciGirls 6-8 Scientific Inquiry, Life/Physical/Earth Science, Engineering & Technology, Math
### FREE APPS at pbskids.org/apps

**APP LEARNING GOALS**

#### FREE APPS

**ARTS, CREATIVITY AND MORE**
- PBS KIDS Kart Kingdom: Creativity 4-8
- PBS KIDS Party: Healthy Habits 4-8
- PBS KIDS Stickers: Creativity 4-8
- Plum’s Creaturizer: Creativity 6-9

#### SOCIAL EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- Daniel Tiger’s For Parents: Social Emotional Development 2-5

#### LITERACY
- Dinosaur Train A to Z: Literacy 3-6
- Molly of Denali: Informational Text 4-8

#### STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)

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<tr>
<th>App Name</th>
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<th>Category</th>
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<td>Cyberchase 3D Builder</td>
<td>6-9</td>
<td>Math</td>
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<td>Cyberchase Shape Quest</td>
<td>6-9</td>
<td>Math — Geometry</td>
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<td>Dinosaur Train Classic in the Jurassic Jr.</td>
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<td>Math</td>
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<td>Fetch! Lunch Rush</td>
<td>4-8</td>
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<td>Jet’s Bot Builder: Robot Games</td>
<td>4-8</td>
<td>Space Science</td>
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<td>Nature Cat’s Great Outdoors</td>
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<td>Outdoor Family Fun with Plum</td>
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<td>Nature, Life Science</td>
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<td>PBS KIDS Measure Up!</td>
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<td>PBS KIDS ScratchJr</td>
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<td>PBS Parents Play &amp; Learn</td>
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<td>Play &amp; Learn Science</td>
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<td>3-5</td>
<td>Science Inquiry, Engineering</td>
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**MULTIPLE LEARNING GOALS FOR KIDS 2-8**

Free learning games with your favorite PBS KIDS characters anytime, anywhere! Thousands of free videos from PBS KIDS, the #1 educational media brand for kids.

#### iOS Only
- Plum’s Photo Hunt: Life Science, Nature 6-9
- Plum’s Creaturizer: Life Science 6-9
- Ready Jet Go! Space Explorer: Space Science 4-8
- Ready Jet Go! Space Scouts: Space Science 4-8
- The Cat in the Hat Builds That!: Science Inquiry, Engineering 3-5
**APP LEARNING GOALS**

**PAID APPS**

at pbskids.org/apps

**SOCIAL EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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<td>Social Emotional Development — Routines</td>
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<td>Daniel Tiger's Stop &amp; Go Potty</td>
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<td>Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood: Play at Home with Daniel</td>
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<td>Daniel Tiger's Storybooks</td>
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**LITERACY**

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<tr>
<td>SUPER WHY! ABC Adventures</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>Literacy</td>
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<td>Super Why! Phonics Fair</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>Literacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Super Why! Power to Read</td>
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**ARTS, CREATIVITY & MORE**

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<tr>
<td>Pinkalicious Party</td>
<td>4-6</td>
<td>Creative Process, Art, Design, Creativity, Roleplaying, Music</td>
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<td>Ocean Science</td>
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<td>Wild Kratts Baby Buddies</td>
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<td>Social Emotional Learning, Animal Science</td>
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<td>Wild Kratts Creature Math</td>
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<td>Wild Kratts Rescue Run</td>
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<td>Animal Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild Kratts World Adventure</td>
<td>4-8</td>
<td>Animal Science</td>
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All apps are available for all devices unless otherwise indicated.

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Bright by Text is a free messaging program for parents and caregivers with children ages 0–8 years old.

Receive free activities, games, and resources from WFSU right to your cell phone. Messages are targeted to your child’s age and include educational content from PBS KIDS, Sesame Street, and other partners.

Text: WFSU
To: 274448
To sign up!

Message and data rates apply.

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