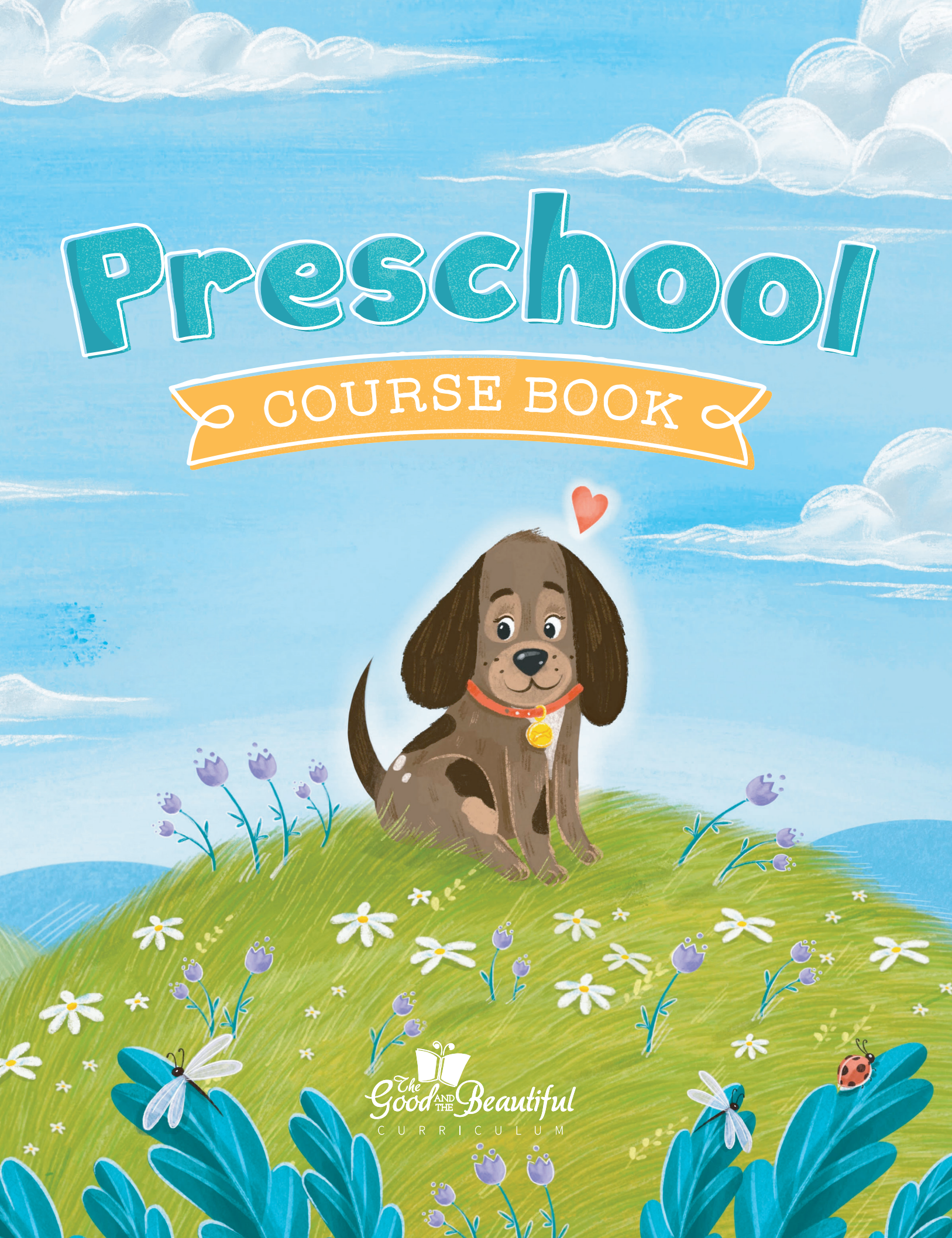


Preschool

COURSE BOOK




The Good AND THE Beautiful
CURRICULUM





Course & Lesson Overview

ITEMS NEEDED
• Items for Letter Activity (see page iii)

LESSON 18 Completed

Optional Activities

- Have the child point to each letter and say its sound, and then have the child point to each letter and say its name (e.g., uppercase A, lowercase A).

A B C D a b c d

- Have the child count to 6 (or higher).

Play Letter Sounds I E and Letter Sounds I F one or more times.

Have the child watch and follow along with the video Letter Sounds I Movement Activities I A to E one or more times. See page iii for information on accessing the videos.

Read to the child: Draw a line from each letter to the object that starts with that letter.

Take the "Letter F" page out of *Preschool Practice Sheets*. Have the child complete one of the following items:

- paint or color the letters
- fill the letters with play dough, mini pom-poms, pipe cleaners, cereal pieces, or dry or cooked then dried spaghetti noodles
- glue glitter or small pieces of cut-up colored paper onto the letters

Play the Mouse House Folder Activity #1.

© Jenny Phillips 39

The Preschool course consists of 90 lessons divided into 7 units. Each lesson is 1–3 pages, is parent-directed, and provides detailed teaching for children ages 3–5. It covers colors, shapes, counting and numbers, rhyming, sequencing, recognition of the letters, and the most common sound of each letter. The course also shows children how to use correct pencil grip, covers beginning handwriting skills such as tracing straight and curved lines, and practices fine motor skills.

Optional Activities: Unit 2 introduces optional activity boxes, where you can work on just the things the child has not yet mastered. This kind of learning (focusing on what the child needs specifically) is important, so it is suggested that you do not skip over the optional activity boxes.

Lesson Text: Blue text is instructions to the parent. Black text is for the parent to read aloud to the child.

Songs and Videos: Song and video titles are underlined. Find information for accessing videos on page iii.

Letter Activity Pages: These pages can be found in *Preschool Practice Sheets*. The list of items needed for these pages is found on page iii.

Folder Activities: The course will indicate when to use the *Preschool Folder Activities*.

Extra Items Needed by Lesson

Lesson 1: Optional: 7 small items (cold cereal pieces, glass jewels, mini pom-poms)

Lesson 3: Optional: 12 seeds (any kind)

Lesson 6: Optional: 12 cotton balls

Lesson 14: A spoon

Lesson 15: A cotton swab, yellow paint; a whiteboard, dry-erase marker

Lesson 20: Paper or index cards

Lesson 23: A piece of grass (or make a piece of paper grass)

Lesson 26: A metal spoon, a glass cup

Lesson 27: 6 small items (dried beans, cereal, fruit snacks, etc.); a spoon; a whiteboard, dry-erase marker

Lesson 30: A cotton swab, white paint

Lesson 33: A fork, a book, and a key

Lesson 34: A cotton swab, white paint

Lesson 37: Optional: 19 pieces of cold cereal

Lesson 39: Lesson instructs child to pick 8 blades of grass

Lesson 40: A spoon

Lesson 46: A cotton swab, yellow paint

Lesson 47: 2 small snacks (cold cereal, raisins, fruit snacks, etc.)

Lesson 50: A cotton swab, paint

Lesson 51: 8 pennies

Lesson 54: A spoon

Lesson 55: 1 cotton ball cut in fourths

Lesson 56: A spoon

Lesson 59: A spoon

Lesson 64: A spoon

Lesson 67: Lesson instructs child to pick 10 blades of grass or paper grass

Lesson 68: 9 pennies; a spoon

Lesson 70: A spoon; 9 pennies

Lesson 73: A cotton swab, white paint

Lesson 74: 1 dime, 10 pennies

Lesson 78: 3 dimes

Lesson 79: A spoon

Lesson 83: A paintbrush, red and blue paint; lesson instructs child to find a small rock

Lesson 84: Optional: dried pasta

Lesson 86: 3 dimes

Lesson 87: A spoon

Lesson 88: A spoon; 9 pennies

Lesson 90: A craft stick or straw



OVERVIEW

UNIT 1

▶ Lessons 1 to 14 ◀

- Letters: A, B, C, D
- Avoiding Lowercase B and D Confusion
- Identifying Beginning Sounds of Words
- Colors: Green, Red, Blue, Black, Brown, Yellow
- Numbers: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Pencil Grip
- Motor Skills

LESSON 12



Read to the child: Look at the picture on this page.

- Point to one of the boys. What letter does BOY start with?
- Another word for HAT is CAP. Point to the cap that the boy is wearing. What letter does CAP start with?
- One of the boys is named Asher. What letter does ASHER start with?
- The boy's cap is cute. What letter does CUTE start with?
- Point to one boy's back. What letter does BACK start with?
- Clever means smart. The boys are clever. What letter does CLEVER start with?



"The Visiting Champion" by Jefferson David Chalfant (1856–1931), c. 1895

Have the child point to each letter and say if it is uppercase or lowercase and its name and sound (e.g., uppercase B says /b/).

B b C c D d A a

LESSON 14

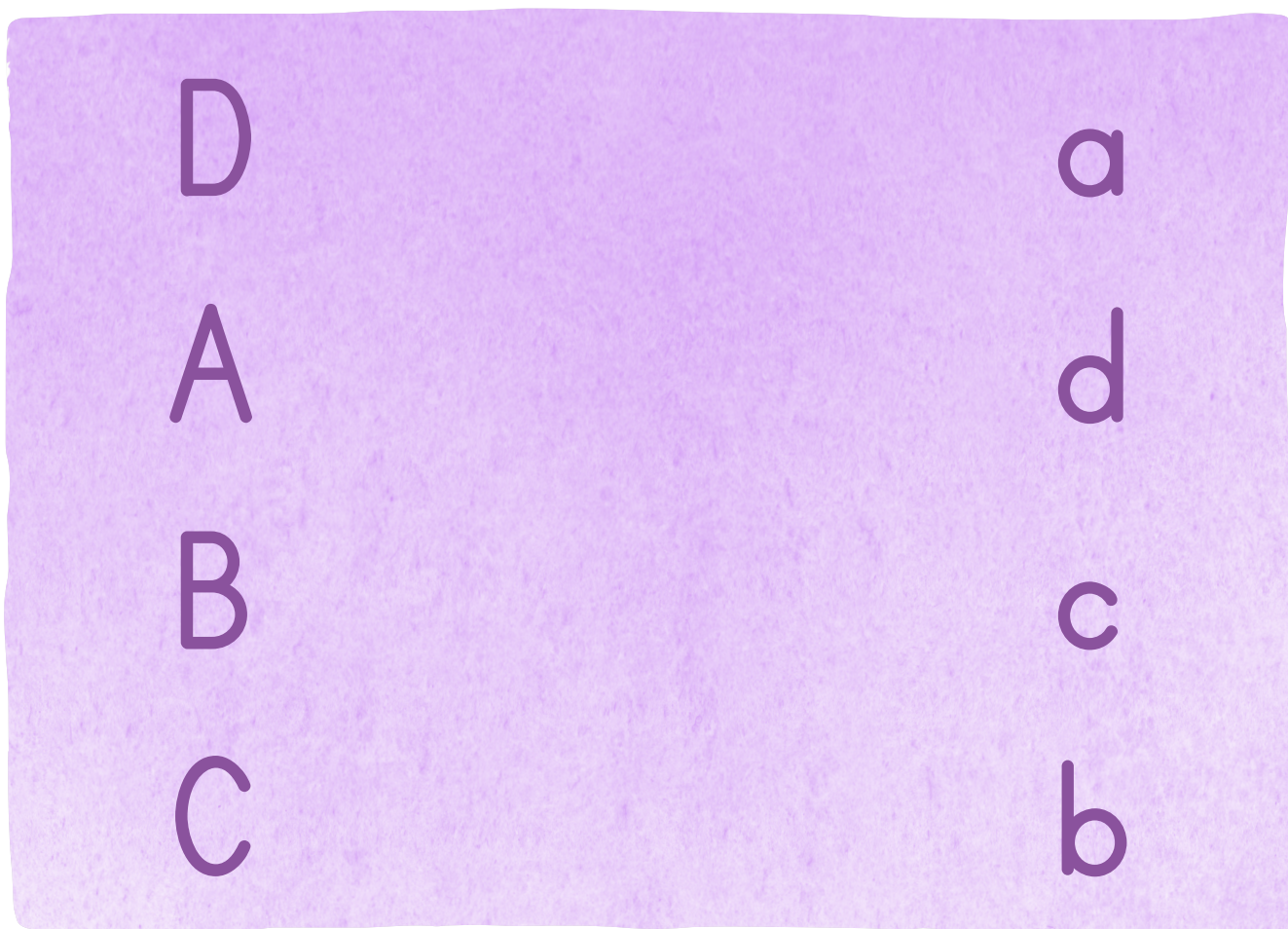
ITEMS NEEDED:

- * A spoon

Unit 1 Assessment

This lesson is an assessment that reviews the principles learned in Unit 1. There is no score and nothing to mark right or wrong. Most children will not have all the principles from Unit 1 mastered at this point, so do not worry if the child does not have everything mastered. All principles will be reviewed throughout the course. However, Unit 2 introduces Optional Activities boxes, where you can work on just the things the child has not yet mastered. This kind of focused learning (focusing on what the child needs specifically) is very important, so it is suggested that you do not skip over the Optional Activities boxes.

- Have the child draw lines to match the lowercase and uppercase letters.



- Give the child a spoon. Have the child tap each letter set with the spoon, say the letters' sound, and then say the name of the letters.

Bb

Aa

Cc

Dd



OVERVIEW

UNIT 2

▶ Lessons 15 to 27 ◀

- Letters: E, F, G, H
- Color: Orange
- Number: 6
- Sorting
- Review of Unit 1



Note:

If the child needs more help with Letters A to D, use the Unit 1 Practice Sheets in *Preschool Practice Sheets* before moving on to Unit 2, or use them as extra practice sheets as you complete Unit 2.

LESSON 24

ITEMS NEEDED:

- * Items for Letter Activity (see page iii)



Optional Activities

- Have the child point to each letter and say its sound, and then have the child point to each letter and say its name (e.g., uppercase A, lowercase A).

D A C B d b a c

- Play [Letter Sounds | H](#) and [Letter Sounds | G](#).
- If desired, have the child watch and follow along with the video [Letter Sounds | Movement Activities | A to E](#) one or more times.
- Read to the child: Let's review. How many letters are in the alphabet? [26] Point to the uppercase H, lowercase H, uppercase G, lowercase G.
- Give the child a full-length pencil. Read to the child: Place the pencil on the path of snails that is all Hs. What does H say? Place the pencil on the path of snails that is all Fs. What does F say?

G H g h

Pencil Path



- Take the "Letter H" page out of *Preschool Practice Sheets*. Have the child complete one of the following items:
 - paint or color the letters
 - fill the letters with play dough, mini pom-poms, pipe cleaners, cereal pieces, or dry or cooked then dried spaghetti noodles
 - glue glitter or small pieces of cut-up colored paper onto the letters
- Play the [Otter Ponds Folder Activity #1](#).





OVERVIEW

UNIT 3

▶ Lessons 28 to 43 ◀

- Letters: I, J, K, L
- Colors: Pink, Purple
- Number: 7
- Identifying Body Parts
- Review of Units 1 & 2

Note:

If the child needs more help with Letters E to H, use the Unit 2 Practice Sheets in *Preschool Practice Sheets* before moving on to Unit 3, or use them as extra practice sheets as you complete Unit 3.



UNIT 3

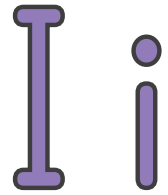
:: LESSON 28 ::



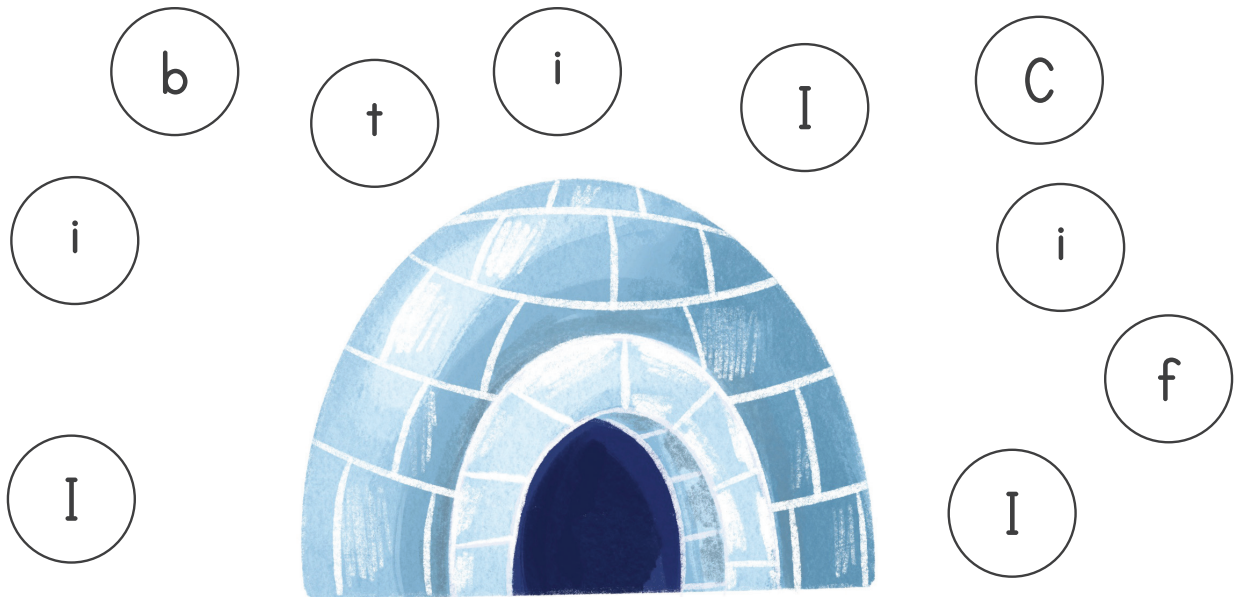
Optional Activities

- Practice uppercase and lowercase flashcards for letters A to H, practicing both letter recognition and the sounds of the letters. Have the child identify letters by uppercase or lowercase (e.g., lowercase A, uppercase C).

○ **Read to the child:** Today, we will learn the letter I. Point to the big purple letter. This is uppercase I. Point to the smaller purple letter. This is lowercase I. The letter I says /i/ as in IGLOO. Point to the uppercase I. Point to the lowercase I. What does the letter I say? [/i/ (as in IGLOO)]



Draw a line from the igloo to each letter I. Before drawing each line, tell me if the I is uppercase or lowercase and tell me what I says. The purple words below the igloo say I GET IN THE IGLOO. There are three Is in the words. See if you can find them.



I get in the igloo.

○ Play [Letter Sounds | I](#) one or more times while you cut out the penguin strip on the next page, roll it into a cylinder (matching up the red lines), and tape it.

Read to the child: Let's play a penguin game. Give the child the penguin cylinder you created. Look at the fun, snowy place on the next page. The penguins love to slip and slide and swim here. Each letter shows a place where the penguin played. Point to each letter and say its sound, and then place your penguin on it. Do the same thing again, but this time have the child say the name of the letter and if it is uppercase or lowercase (e.g., uppercase G, lowercase F).

○ If desired, have the child watch and follow along with the video [Letter Sounds | Movement Activities | A to E](#) one or more times.

○ Draw a line from the jellyfish to each image that starts with J.

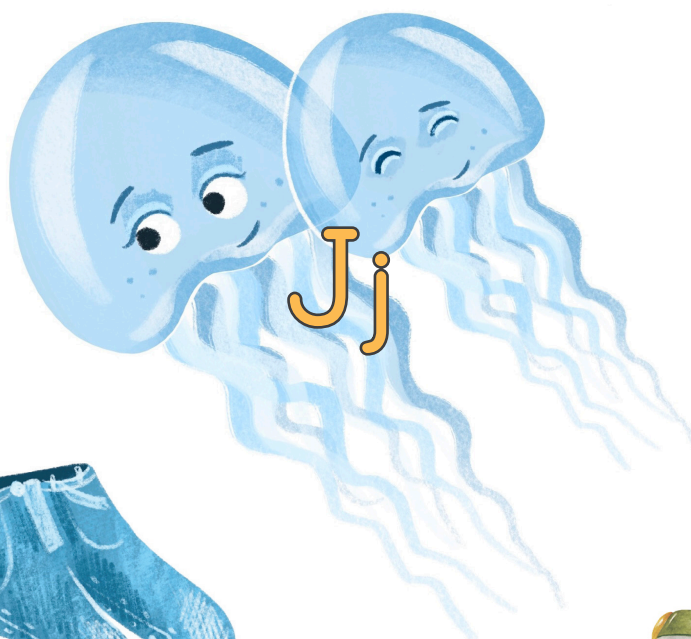
Jj



jacket



jar



jam



jeans



jeep

○ Have the child point to each number with you and count. Then say a number between 1 and 7 and have the child point to that number. Repeat all the numbers a few times.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7



OVERVIEW

UNIT 4

▶ Lessons 44 to 56 ◀

- Letters: M, N, O, P
- Number: 8
- Money: Pennies
- Identifying Sounds of Three Letter Words
- Identifying Missing Letters in the Alphabet
- Review of Units 1 through 3

Note:

If the child needs more help with Letters I to L, use the Unit 3 Practice Sheets in *Preschool Practice Sheets* before moving on to Unit 4, or use them as extra practice sheets as you complete Unit 4.

LESSON 45

ITEMS NEEDED:
 * Items for Letter Activity (see page iii)

Preparation needed:
 See the parent instructions in purple below.

Optional Activities

- Have the child point to each letter and say its sound, and then have the child point to each letter and say its name (e.g., uppercase A, lowercase A).

A B C D a b c d

- Have the child count to 6 (or higher).

- Play [Letter Sounds | M N O](#).
- If desired, have the child watch and follow along with the video [Letter Sounds | Movement Activities | L to P](#) one or more times.
- Have the child draw a line from the mug to each image that starts with M.



- Take the "Letter M" page out of *Preschool Practice Sheets*. Have the child complete one of the following items:
 - paint or color the letters
 - fill the letters with play dough, mini pom-poms, pipe cleaners, cereal pieces, or dry or cooked then dried spaghetti noodles
 - glue glitter or small pieces of cut-up colored paper onto the letters

This space is left blank intentionally for double-sided printing.

- Take out flashcards A to F (uppercase and lowercase). Hide them around the room. Read to the child: I've hidden letter flashcards all around the room. Find them as fast as you can. Each time you find a card, bring it to me, say the sound of the letter, and then say the name of the letter including uppercase or lowercase (e.g., uppercase A, lowercase B). Then go find the next card. Play until the child has found all 12 cards. Give hints if needed.

- Play the Mouse House Folder Activity #2.

LESSON 46

ITEMS NEEDED:

- * A cotton swab, yellow paint



Optional Activities

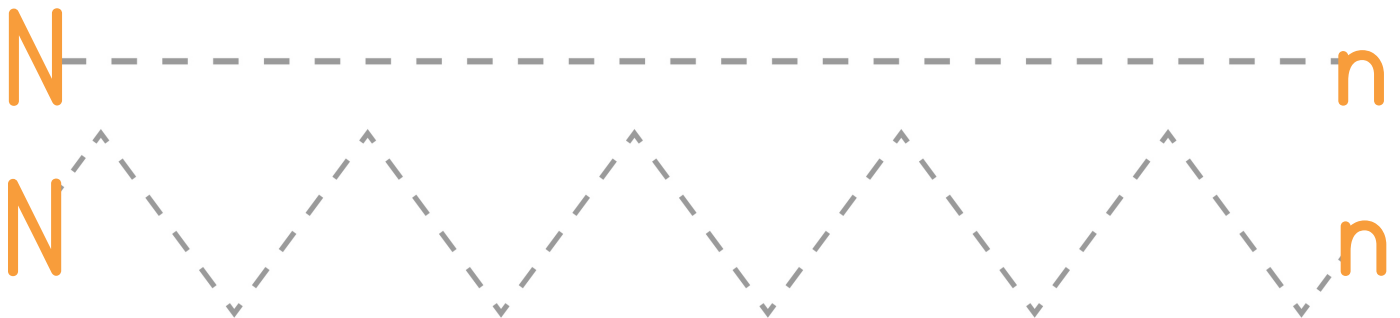
- Play [ABC Song | Alphabet Song](#), [Letter Sounds | A B C](#), and [Letter Sounds | D](#). Encourage the child to sing along.

- Have the cotton swab and yellow paint ready. Read to the child: Point to the first orange letter. This is uppercase N. Point to the next orange letter. This is lowercase n. N says /n/. Here are some words that start with N: N - N - NEST, N - N - NAP, N - N - NO, and N - N - NICE. What sound does N make? [/n/] Another word that starts with N is NIGHT. Look at the picture below. It is night, and the moon shines in the sky. Dip a cotton swab in the paint. Then put dots on the sky to be the stars. Each time you put on a star, say "N says /n/ (as in NIGHT)."

N n



- Have the child tell you what color the Ns are below. [orange] Have the child hold a pencil correctly (see page 85) and trace the lines from the uppercase Ns to the lowercase Ns.





OVERVIEW

UNIT 5

▶ Lessons 57 to 72 ◀

- Letters: Q, R, S, T
- Identifying Ending Sounds of Words
- Colors: White, Gray
- Number: 9
- Rhyming Words
- Review of Units 1 through 4

Note:

If the child needs more help with Letters M to P, use the Unit 4 Practice Sheets in *Preschool Practice Sheets* before moving on to Unit 5, or use them as extra practice sheets as you complete Unit 5.

Rhyming Words

- Read to the child:** Let's talk about words that rhyme.

Point to your nose. Here are some words that rhyme with NOSE: ROSE, HOSE, CLOSE, TOES.

Point to your chin. Here are some words that rhyme with CHIN: SPIN, FIN, SKIN, WIN, TWIN.

Point to your cheek. Here are some words that rhyme with CHEEK: WEEK, SPEAK, SQUEAK, SEEK.

Point to your head. Here are some words that rhyme with HEAD: SAID, RED, SPREAD, BED, FED.

- Read to the child:** Look at the images below. Circle the two images with words that rhyme on each row. Rhyming words end with the same sound.



Optional Activities

- Practice flashcards and/or listen to letter songs for any letters Q to T that are not mastered.

- **Read to the child and complete the instructions:** Look at this beautiful photograph of a little brown bird. A painting or drawing is made by a person using paint, crayons, or pencils. A photograph comes from someone taking a picture with a camera. I am going to read a poem about a little brown bird.

A little bird, with feathers brown,
 Sat singing on a tree;
 The song was very soft and low,
 But sweet as it could be.



I will read the poem again, one line at a time, and you repeat each line after me. Read the poem, pausing for the child to repeat each line. Then point to the four lines in the poem and count them. Point to the first word in each line. Tell me what letter is at the beginning of line two. What sound does it make? What letter is at the beginning of line four? What sound does it make?

- **Read to the child:** Point to the bird's beak. What letter does BEAK start with? Point to the bird's feathers. What letter does FEATHERS start with?

- Play [Letter Sounds | Q](#), [Letter Sounds | R](#), [Letter Sounds | S](#), and [Letter Sounds | T](#) one or more times while you cut out the cards on the next page.
- Mix up the cards you cut out. Have the child find all the matches (uppercase letter, lowercase letter, and the image that has the same starting sound as the letter). Repeat as many times as desired.
- **Play the Hide & Seek Pets Folder Activity #1.**



OVERVIEW

UNIT 6

▶ Lessons 73 to 80 ◀

- Letters: U, V, W
- Numbers to 10
- Shapes: Circle, Oval, Triangle
- Money: Dimes
- Lowercase Q With and Without a Tail
- Review of Units 1 through 5

Note:

If the child needs more help with Letters Q to T, use the Unit 5 Practice Sheets in *Preschool Practice Sheets* before moving on to Unit 6, or use them as extra practice sheets as you complete Unit 6.

LESSON 76



Optional Activities

- Practice flashcards and/or listen to letter songs for any letters Q to T that are not mastered.

○ **Read to the child:** Let's explore the painting on this page.

How many dogs are in the picture? How many cats are in the picture?

The dogs are animals. The cat is an animal. How many animals are in the picture?

What color is the cat? What two colors are the dogs? What letter does BROWN start with?

Point to a dog's tail. What letter does TAIL start with?

Point to a dog's paw. What letter does the word PAW start with?

The cat is on a tree stump. What letter does STUMP start with?

Point to a dog's leg. What letter does LEG start with?



"Out of Reach" by Ejnar Vindfeldt (1905–1953), unknown

See page 157 for instructions for this section.

q	p	p	p
q	q	q	p

LESSON 77

ITEMS NEEDED:
 * Items for Letter Activity (see page iv)






Optional Activities

- Have the child point to each number and tell you what number it is: 8 10 2 3 9 7.

- Play [Letter Sounds | U](#) and [Letter Sounds | V and W](#) one or more times.





Color Match

○ Have the child draw a line from the color to the letter that represents the first sound of the color.

	b
	r
	p
	w
	g

Money Match

○ Have the child draw a line from the money on each row to the number that shows the amount.

	10
	3
	1
	2

- Have the child point to each letter and say its sound. Then tell the child what the word says.

t u b v a n w e b

- Take the "Letter V" page out of the *Preschool Practice Sheets*. Have the child complete one of the following items:
 - paint or color the letters
 - fill the letters with play dough, mini pom-poms, pipe cleaners, cereal pieces, or dry or cooked then dried spaghetti noodles
 - glue glitter or small pieces of cut-up colored paper onto the letters

- Play the Moon Match Folder Activity #1.



OVERVIEW

UNIT 7

▶ Lessons 81 to 90 ◀

- Letters: X, Y, Z
- Shape: Square
- Shades of Colors
- Review of Units 1 through 6



Note:

If the child needs more help with Letters U to W, use the Unit 6 Practice Sheets in *Preschool Practice Sheets* before moving on to Unit 7, or use them as extra practice sheets as you complete Unit 7.

LESSON 82

ITEMS NEEDED:

- * Items for Letter Activity (see page iii)

Optional Activities

- Practice flashcards and/or listen to letter songs for any letters A to V that are not mastered.

- **Read to the child:** Today, you get to play the piano! I will say a number, and you tap that number with your finger. Say the numbers on the keyboard in random order several times.



- **Read to the child:** Look at the ox. What letter does the word OX end with? This ox is fun. The letters love to play with him.

What letter is next to the ox's tail?

What letter is riding on his back? Is it uppercase or lowercase? What does X say?

What letter is riding in the middle of the ox's horns?

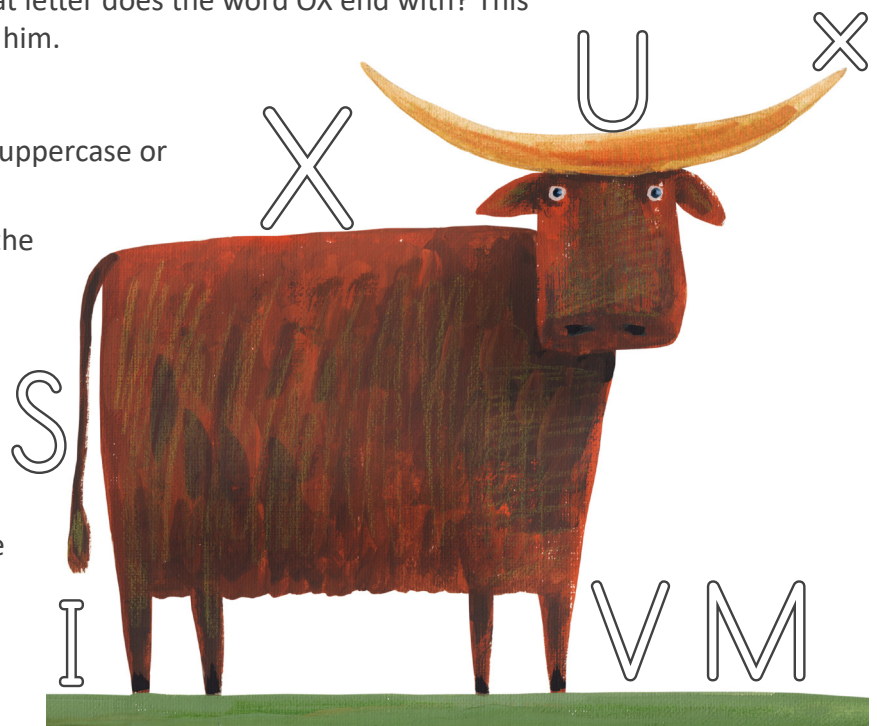
What letter is riding on the tip of the horn? Is it uppercase or lowercase?

What does X say?

What letters would the ox step on if he moved forward?

What letter would the ox step on if he moved backward?

- Have the child point to each letter and say its sound. Then tell the child what the word says.



box

mix

fix

LESSON 88

- ITEMS NEEDED:**
- * A spoon
 - * 9 pennies

Optional Activities

- Have the child point to each number and tell you what number it is: 8 4 2 3 9 7.
- Play [ABC Song | Alphabet Song](#) or sing the alphabet song with the child.

- Play [Letter Sounds | S](#) and [Letter Sounds | T](#) one or more times.
- Have the child tell you the missing letter in each set.

A _ C D a b _ d G H I _ K

- Give the child nine pennies. Read to the child: These are pennies. Pennies are worth one cent. The word PENNIES starts with P. Listen to the /p/ sound at the beginning of the word: P - P - PENNIES. Have the child count the pennies and tell you how many total cents there are. Let's play a game called PENNY PATH. Go along the path and say the name of each picture and what letter it starts with. Instead of looking for images that start with P, look for images that start with R and put a penny on those circles.

Penny Path

The game board features a path of pennies. The path starts at a 'Start' point and ends at an 'End' point. Each penny has a different illustration: a rose, a boat, a rabbit, a parrot, a ring, a school bus, a robot, a road, a raccoon, an octopus, a tortoise, a violin, and a watermelon slice.

- Give the child a spoon. Have the child tap each letter set with the spoon, say its sound, and then say its name.

Zz Yy Ww Xx

Play Front Doors Folder Activity #2.

Read to the child: The children on this page are all smiling! When we smile it makes us happy, and it brings happiness to other people too! It is a wonderful thing to bring happiness to other people. Have the child point to the letter on the first sign and say the letter name. Have the child do this for all letters on the path. Then do the path again, this time having the child say the sound each letter makes.



Course Assessment: Part 1

The course assessment allows you to see what the child has learned in the course.

In order to move on to the *Kindergarten Prep* course, the child should have the following items mastered:

- identifying colors
- counting to 10 (recognizing numbers to 10 does not need to be mastered until the end of the *Kindergarten Prep* course)
- recognizing both lowercase and uppercase letters and identifying the letter sounds of the alphabet
- singing the alphabet alone or with someone else

The other items taught in this course are for exposure and practice. All other concepts practiced in this course will be reviewed in the *Kindergarten Prep* course and do not need to be mastered at this time.

Items That Should Be Mastered to Move to *Kindergarten Prep*

Have the child point to the letters below and say the name of each letter and its sound. If the child doesn't have a letter's recognition and sound mastered, circle it on the chart below. It is suggested that you then work on those letters daily through flashcards, letter sound videos, movement videos, pages from *Preschool Practice Sheets*, or the Folder Activity games until the letters are mastered.

A	D	e	F	E	g	J
a	B	H	G	d	j	h
L	K	k	I	b	M	i
m	C	c	f	l		



- **Read to the child:** Let's pretend you are a rocket and you are going to take off in 10 seconds. Crouch down on the ground. Then count to 10. When you get to 10, act as if you are a rocket taking off. Practice counting daily if the child cannot count to 10.

ITEMS NEEDED:
* A craft stick or straw

LESSON 90

Completed

Note:
This lesson instructs you to complete part of the lesson outside.

Course Assessment: Part 2

Items That Should Be Mastered to Move to Kindergarten Prep

Have the child point to the letters below and say the name of each letter and its sound. If the child doesn't have a letter's recognition and sound mastered, circle it on the chart below. It is suggested that you then work on those letters daily through flashcards, letter sound videos, movement videos, pages from *Preschool Practice Sheets*, or the Folder Activity games until the letters are mastered.

N	Z	z	O	o	P	p
Q	n	q	r	S	s	T
t	U	u	V	v	X	x
W	w	Y	y	R		

- Go to a sidewalk or grassy area. Have the child recite the alphabet, taking a small step forward with every letter. You may sing the alphabet with the child. Practice the alphabet daily if the child cannot recite the alphabet with or without you.
- Give the child a craft stick or a straw. Have the child use it to point to each color and tell you its name.



Item That Does Not Need to Be Mastered at This Point

- Have the child name each shape.

