

## Words All Around Us

**Book:** *I Read Signs* by Tana Hoban. Introduces signs and symbols frequently seen along the street.

Bring print to life in your home and your community. Provide opportunities for your child to see you writing letters, reading books, newspapers, or magazines, using the calendar, paying bills, writing e-mails, or reading a recipe. Point out store signs, a menu board in a drive thru, billboards, and road signs.

**Kindergarten Connection:** Preschoolers are just becoming aware that print is all around them. Kindergarteners will increase their ability to recognize print and be able to identify the messages found in print within their environment.

## Weather Report

**Book:** *Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs* by Judi Barrett. A tall tale of the town of Chewandswallow, where the weather is served three times a day.

Read the weather report with your child to decide which clothes to wear.

**Kindergarten Connection:** In kindergarten, children will look at words and charts to draw conclusions.

## Simon Says

**Book:** *Hop on Pop* by Dr. Seuss. Pairs of rhyming words are introduced and used in simple sentences.

Reinforce newly learned words by using them in the game, "Simon Says." Example: "Simon says touch your wrist. Simon says gallop."

**Kindergarten Connection:** In kindergarten, children will learn new words by connecting them to words they already know. The more words children know upon entering kindergarten, the easier it will be to make these connections.

## Car Talk

**Book: *Tell Me a Story, Mama*** by Angela Johnson. A young girl and her mother remember together all the girl's favorite stories about her mother's childhood.

Turn off the radio. Use time in the car to talk with your child about friends, food, games, and events, or to plan or review the day.

**Kindergarten Connection:** Children develop language through listening and speaking. With practice, children learn to listen attentively, demonstrate understanding by responding appropriately, and speak clearly with expression as they communicate ideas.

## Car Boogie

**Book: *The Jolly Mon*** by Jimmy and Savannah. Relates the adventures of a fisherman who finds a magic guitar floating in the Caribbean Sea.

Choose child-friendly radio stations (like Radio Disney, AM 910) and music to sing along with your child. CDs are available from your local library or Family Center for free checkout.

**Kindergarten Connection:** In kindergarten, children will develop language through a variety of media, including music.

## Letters on the Fridge

**Book: *Chicka, Chicka, Boom, Boom*** by Bill Martin. All the letters of the alphabet race each other up the coconut tree.

Put magnetic letters on your refrigerator for your child to play with and to build words. Children love to create their own words by putting together random letters and then asking what their “words” say. Sound out and point to the letters as you read the invented word to your child. Be prepared to play this game over and over.

**Kindergarten Connection:** Kindergarteners will hear and write letters to represent sounds and match sounds to the correct letters.

### Activity Card

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