

Sunset Acres Elementary School

PRE-K NEWSLETTER #2

COGNITIVE SKILLS



Welcome!

Welcome to the second of four pre-K newsletters. This newsletter is all about cognitive skills, which are a child's basic math and pre-reading skills, and his or her ability to solve problems.

Why is this important?

Before learning how to read or add and subtract, children need to have the language, reasoning and critical thinking skills needed to explore, ask questions and seek answers.

Children also need to be challenged. Rather than just giving an answer to a question, more questions should be asked such as: Why do you think...? What would happen if...? What do you think about...? How could you solve that problem?

What should my child be able to do at this stage?

- Follow multi-step directions (e.g., "Get your shoes and line up at the door")
- Understand and use basic reasoning skills (ask "why" and "how" questions often)
- Sort and classify objects by different attributes (colour, shape, size)
- Recognize patterns and begin to predict what comes next
- Begin to count accurately and understand "how many"
- Identify some numbers and some letters, especially those in their name
- Begin simple problem-solving (e.g., figuring out how to build something or complete a task)
- Understand concepts of time in simple terms (morning, afternoon, yesterday, today)
- Engage in imaginative play and create stories or roles during play
- Recall and retell simple stories or events in sequence
- Stay focused on an activity for longer periods (with growing attention span)
- Understand cause and effect (e.g., "If I drop this, it will fall")
- Begin to recognize rhymes and word sounds (early literacy skills)
- Compare quantities (more/less, bigger/smaller)
- Make choices and explain their thinking (e.g., why they picked something)

Still have questions? Contact Family and Child Education Anglophone West at 1-855-454-3762.

Sunset Acres Elementary School

PRE-K NEWSLETTER #2

COGNITIVE SKILLS - GAMES & ACTIVITIES



"Letter & Sound Hunt"

- Find objects that start with certain letters or sounds
- Builds early literacy and categorization skills

"Which Is More?"

- Compare groups of items (toys, snacks) and ask questions
- Helps with math concepts like more/less and estimation

"Pretend Play Adventures"

- Act out roles (store, doctor, school)
- Encourages imagination, reasoning, and social thinking

"Simon Says"

- Play with multi-step directions (e.g., "Touch your head, then hop twice")
- Improves listening, attention, and memory

"Rhyme Time Game"

- Take turns saying rhyming words or silly rhymes
- Strengthens language patterns and phonological awareness

"Sorting Station"

- Sort toys or objects by color, size, or type
- Builds classification and logical thinking