

## CRESTLINE KINDERGARTEN

### SUGGESTIONS FOR ENCOURAGING ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT AT HOME

These ideas are intended to be used in a relaxed manner to help your child practice skills and further develop concepts previously presented at school. Please do not use this list to drill your child, but use it to develop habits and games that will be fun and educational.



### LANGUAGE

Language is speaking, listening, reading, writing, and thinking. Encouraging any one of these areas will assist the development of all areas.

1. *Read to your child daily.* Discuss the pictures, print, and plot. Run your finger along under the words as you read. Encourage your child to read the words he/she knows.
2. Read the labels on household objects with your child, casually pointing out the letters and sounds they make. Examples: Campbell's soup, Hoover vacuum, McDonald's hamburgers, Crest toothpaste.
3. Leave short notes of instruction or praise for your child, using words familiar to him/her.
4. Encourage your child to use his/her knowledge of language to write lists, letters, stories, etc. Ask your child to read the writing to you.
5. Use a chart with words and pictures to indicate your child's bedtime, household chores, accomplishments, etc.
6. Help your child to start a list or card file of words he/she can recognize. These words can be referred to when writing and reading at home.
7. Encourage your child to consider him/herself a reader and a writer ! Praise your child's reading when he/she recognizes familiar words and names. Praise and accept his/her attempts at spelling.

### MATH AND SCIENCE

1. Discuss the quantity and amount of household items you use. Point out or ask your child to find numbers that indicate quantity on packages.
2. Play classification games when traveling. For example, count cows, models of cars, types of buildings, etc.
3. Sort household items into many types of groups with your child. For example, sort all the black socks, sort all the boys' socks, all the sport socks, etc.
4. Count various things around the house. Count shirts by ones, count shoes by twos, count other objects by fives and tens.
5. Encourage the use of the following concepts: more and less, younger and older, larger and smaller, longer and shorter, and any other terms used when making comparisons.
6. Encourage your child to see patterns and sets in everyday living.
7. Find out what your child is studying in school. Help him/her relate this subject to his/her own or family experience. (You will be receiving a newsletter indicating topics being studied or that have been studied.)