Parent Resources for 3-Year Old Children

Playing Cards	Suggestions & Tips

	• Create a pile of 5 cards and have child point to each card and count up to 5
	• Have child sort cards by:
	    ○ Color
	    ○ Object (ex: angel fish, sharks, dolphins)
	    ○ Numbers (all 2's in a pile, all 3's, etc.)
	    ○ Suit: hearts, ♥ diamonds ♦, spades ♠, clubs ♣
	• Create two sets of cards and ask child which set has more or less, and ask how they know

Book	Suggestions & Tips

	Read books, any books will do!
	• Resources for free books:
	    ○ Little Free Library at littlefreelibrary.org/ourmap
	    ○ https://www.freechildrenstories.com/age-3-5
	    ○ Authors Reading Aloud: https://www.weareteachers.com/virtual-author-activities/
	• Reading books aloud:
	    ○ How to do a read aloud with your preschooler: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FjJD1UDwVKg
	    ○ Ask your child questions such as: What was your favorite part & why?, How do you think the author felt when…?
	• Picture Walk: Show the cover & ask what child thinks it will be about. Look at the pictures on each page and have child tell what they think is happening. Read the story to the child.
	• Have child identify what they see in the pictures

Handwriting Paper & Crayons	Suggestions & Tips
	• Have child draw a picture and ask what they drew. Then write a story to go with the picture (child or parent can do the writing). • Have child draw and write a story (child does the writing) • Have child write their name (parent may want to write it once on the paper as a guide for the child) • Have child draw and write about an activity they have done at home

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Counters	Suggestions & Tips
	• Have child point to each counter and count up to 5 • Create two sets of counters and ask child which set has more or less, and ask how they know • Have child create an AB pattern (ex: red, yellow, red, yellow) • Have child sort counters by color • How Many Game: Show a certain number of counters, put a cloth over them, and then add or take some away • Positional word game: Have child place the counters in various positions in relation to another object (ex: put the red counter <u>under</u> the cup, put the green counter <u>in</u> the cup, etc.). Try this with other objects and various places around the house. Add other language including shapes and sizes of objects.

Items Around the Home	Suggestions & Tips

	Items you have at home will vary but look around and see what you can put to use with your child!
	• Provide child with a pile of objects and have child do the following:
	  o Place objects in a bag and have child try to feel and guess what is in the bag. Have child describe what they are feeling.
	  o Sort objects by color, naming each color
	  o Create an AB pattern (ex: spoon, toy, spoon, toy)
	  o Point to each object and count up to 5
	  o Identify which room in your home each object belongs in (kitchen, bathroom, bedroom, etc.)
	• On a tray or a table, have child make letters, numbers, and their name using Q-tip or finger, shaving cream, sand, snow, or playdough
	• Gather print objects (menus, brochures, magazines, recipes, food boxes, etc) and do the following:
	  o Tell child what the object is for, how they are read, and how they are used
	  o Encourage child to use object in their play
	  o Show a menu, recipe, or food box and ask child to tell about their favorite food
	• Play I Spy: Play using colors, shapes, beginning and ending sounds in words, rhyming (ex: I spy with my little eye–something that is brown, I spy with my little eye–something that has four legs, I spy with my little eye–something that barks. You guessed it–my dog Karlie.
	• Check out these free resources:
	  o SesameStreet.org/caring
	  o https://pbskids.org/learn/
	  o https://www.himama.com/daycare-activities/at-home-preschool