



Saint Paul **BLAST OFF** TO KINDERGARTEN

June

Get Ready for School

Skills to Practice this Month

• Encourage your child to try new things; use crayons, pencils, scissors, buttons, zippers, forks, spoons, and other small everyday objects. Upon entering kindergarten, many children are able to draw or copy squares, triangles, circles, and other patterns. Many are able to draw a person, dress and undress with help, and use silverware.

Activities

- Help your child cut different shapes out of paper. Cut circles, squares, triangles, and rectangles. Show your child how these simple shapes can be combined to make people, trees, houses, boats, and other objects. Let your child glue his designs onto paper and write his name on his creations with crayons or markers.
- Sew buttons onto pieces of fabric and let your child practice buttoning and unbuttoning. You could also give your child zippers, laces, and snaps to practice these dressing skills.
- Let your child set the table at the evening meal. Talk about what each piece of silverware is called and what it is used for. Have your child practice holding and using a fork, spoon, and knife. Make a fun game out of it! Can you eat peas with a knife, corn on the cob with a spoon, soup with a fork?

Books for Children Further listings available at www.blastofftok.org

- *Harold and the Purple Crayon* by Crockett Johnson
- *Doodler Doodling* by Rita Golden Gelman
- *Circus Shapes* by Stuart J. Murphy
- *Circle Dogs* by Kevin Henkes
- *When a Line Bends a Shape Begins* by Rhonda Gowler Greene

Books for Parents Further listings available at www.blastofftok.org

- *Paper Fantastic: 50 Creative Projects to Fold, Cut, Glue, Paint, and Weave* by Joe Rhatigan

Get Ready to Read

Skills to Practice this Month

• Invite your child to help with sending cards and letters. Writing letters to family and friends will help children recognize letters.

Be Healthy

Skills to Practice this Month

• Talk about bus, car and traffic safety rules with your child. Whether or not your child will be riding a bus to and from school, all children should be aware of car, bus and traffic safety rules.

Visit www.blastofftok.org for more information.

Blast Off to K is joint project of the Saint Paul Public Libraries, Saint Paul Public Schools, the City of Saint Paul Mayor's Office, and the United Way.