



Saint Paul **BLAST OFF** TO KINDERGARTEN

March

Get Ready for School

Skills to Practice this Month

• Encourage your child to try new things and to keep trying when they are working on difficult tasks. Your child will encounter new experiences everyday at school. Upon entering kindergarten, most children are willing to try new things and to complete tasks.

Activities

- Talk to your child about what it means to be committed to a task. Talk to your child about a time when she kept trying and her hard work and effort paid off.
- Ask your child to tell you what the world would be like without cars, telephones, or television. Ask him if he thinks it was easy or difficult for someone to create all these things.
- Plan a project with your child that requires several steps to complete. Write out the steps. You could try planting a vegetable or flower garden or just plan and prepare a meal together. Be sure to finish each step of the project before moving on to the next step or starting something new.

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

- *Pearl's New Skates* by Holly Keller
- *Apple Batter* by Deborah Turney Zagwyn
- *The Little Engine that Could* by Watty Piper
- *The Little Red Hen* by Paul Galdone
- *The Itsy Bitsy Spider* by Iza Trapani
- *Inch by Inch* by Leo Lionni
- *The Carrot Seed* by Ruth Krauss

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

- *The Values Book: Teaching 16 Basic Values to Young Children* by Pam Schiller and Tamera Bryant

Get Ready to Read

Skills to Practice this Month

• Encourage your child to practice writing the letters in her own name. It's important for children to recognize their first and last name in print. Provide opportunities for children to talk about the letters and sounds in their name. Provide pencils, crayons and paper and encourage your child to practice writing the letters in her name. Write your child's name often.

Be Healthy

Skills to Practice this Month

• Help your child to learn to eat like a "big kid." Upon entering kindergarten, your child should be able to sit at a table, eat without help, and use silverware.

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.