

Preschool Course (Ages 3–5)

If your child can count to five and recognize pictures of and say the words for apple, monkey, alligator, elephant, and dinosaur, then he or she is ready for the *Preschool Course*. Most children will be ready to start the course at age 4, while some start at age 3, and some do not start until age 5.

Kindergarten Prep Course (Ages 4–5)

LETTERS AND SOUNDS ASSESSMENT

Have the child point to each letter and say its name and most common sound and then tell you if the letter is uppercase or lowercase.

a	w	c	d	L	f	g	h	i
j	B	l	D	n	P	p	R	r
s	t	u	v	Q	x	y	S	J
A	M	C	O	z	G	U	W	K
b	H	E	k	F	T	V	q	X
N	o	e	Y	I	Z	m		

The child should start on the *Kindergarten Prep Course* if he or she knows all the letters and the most common sound of each letter but does not have them solidly mastered and/or cannot yet identify all letters as either uppercase or lowercase. This short 30-lesson course will help children be prepared for the *Level K Course*.

Kindergarten-aged Child (Ages 5–6)



The *Level K Course Set* includes the *Level K Course Book*, *Reading Booster A Cards*, and *Reading Booster A Books*. The placement test will direct advanced readers to use the *Reading Booster B Cards and Books* instead of the *Reading Booster A Cards and Books* while completing the *Level K Course Book*.

The child does not know all the letters and the most common sound of each letter.

Start on the *Preschool Course*. Children who are at a kindergarten age can often move through the 90-lesson *Preschool Course* more quickly than one lesson a day, then move on to the 30-lesson *Kindergarten Prep Course* before starting the *Level K Course*.

The child recognizes each letter and its most common sound but does not have them solidly mastered and/or cannot yet identify all letters as either uppercase or lowercase.

Start on the *Kindergarten Prep Course*. Children who are at kindergarten age can often move through this short, 30-lesson course more quickly than one lesson a day and then start on the *Level K Course*. Children who do not have letters thoroughly mastered are likely to struggle with the *Level K Course*.

The child has solidly mastered all the letters and the most common sound of each letter and can identify all the letters as either uppercase or lowercase, but the child cannot yet read any words or cannot read words like TENT, CRY, NEED, WAS, SAY, WISH, CHIN, and THAT.

Start on the *Level K Course*. (Note: The child should also be able to recite the alphabet.)

If the child can read words like TENT, CRY, NEED, WAS, SAY, WISH, CHIN, and THAT, administer the Level 1 Reading Assessment on the next page.

If the child does not pass the Level 1 Reading Assessment, start on the *Level K Course* so that no foundational learning is missed. The child may be able to complete more than one lesson a day.

If the child passes the Level 1 Reading Assessment, still start on the *Level K Course Book*, **but consider using the *Reading Booster B Cards and Books* rather than using the *Reading Booster A Cards and Books***. It is not recommended that a child at kindergarten age start above the *Level K Course Book*, no matter the child's reading level. Advanced readers can be challenged with reading books on their level from *The Good and the Beautiful Book List*. Advanced readers can often move more quickly to higher-level courses by doing more than one lesson a day. Not skipping levels ensures that no foundational learning is missed in spelling, writing, grammar, geography, and art, and it also ensures there are no holes in the child's reading foundation.