Create your own stories and games, and bring them to life!

Free App for iPad and Android Tablets

Learn about all PBS KIDS apps at pbskids.org/apps

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PBS KIDS ScratchJr was developed in collaboration with Tufts University and MIT Media Lab.

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Hello, Grown-ups!

We’re so excited that you’re joining PBS KIDS on our summer adventures, and to be working with several partners and PBS member stations across the country to bring your family fun learning opportunities all summer long. Be on the lookout for all-new programming from some of PBS KIDS’ favorite series like ODD SQUAD, NATURE CAT, and READY JET GO!, as well as exciting digital games, great local events, and learning resources like this activity book.

Here are a few quick tips to help you keep your kids excited about learning this summer and beyond:

• **Ask lots of questions.** Encourage your kids to explore more when you ask them questions like: Why do you think that happened? What do you think that’s for? What will happen next?

• **Encourage kids to search for answers.** When your kids ask you “why?” see if you can work together to figure out what they need to know or do to find the answer.

• **Try something new.** Summer’s a great time to try new things like reading a new kind of book, tasting a new food, or visiting a new park.

• **Just have fun.** Summertime comes along only once a year, so make sure to have fun while you’re learning.

If you want to explore more with PBS KIDS, tune in daily to your local station or visit pbsparents.org/summer for more activities, tips and resources. In the meantime, we hope you have a great summer!

PBS KIDS
Hi, Neighbor!

Your neighborhood is your child’s first place to explore and call home. Help your child become familiar with the people, places and things in your neighborhood by talking about the things you see every day. Use this scavenger hunt to get to know your neighbors, and your neighborhood, a little better. **How many items can you find?**

- An insect
- A stop sign
- A flower pot with flowers
- A house or apartment with red shutters or a red door
- A bicycle or tricycle
- A US mail box
- Leaves from three (3) different trees
- A newspaper
- A neighbor whose name starts with the letter "D"

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**My Creature Adventure**

**Instructions:** Anyone can write their own creature adventure. You just need to choose your creature, choose a setting (where the adventure takes place), and decide on the plot (what happens to the creature in the setting). Try for yourself!

__________________________________________________________________

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Library List

Create a reading list by asking your child to come up with some topics and types of stories that interest them. When you get to the library ask your librarian to help you find books based on your list. Since you can't take all the books home now, work with your child to make a list of books that you want to come back and check out another day.

Genres:
(A genre is a category or type of literature.)

Drama: A drama usually refers to a serious story.
Comedy: A comedy usually refers to a funny story.
Poetry: Poems tell a story or describe a person, place, thing or idea. Poems are usually shorter than stories and often rhyme.
Science-fiction: Science-fiction stories are imaginary stories that often take place in the future or in space.
Biography: Biographies are true stories about real people.
Non-fiction: Non-fiction books are about something that really happened. Non-fiction can be about the past (history) or the present.

I'm interested in learning more about topics like:

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

I'm interested in genres like:

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

My reading list:

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

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The Weather in My Neighborhood

Sunny? Rainy? Cloudy? Windy?
What is the weather like outside?

Draw a picture of the weather outside and label your picture with the correct weather word in each day’s box.

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Count how many days had each kind of weather.

☐ Sunny  ☐ Rainy  ☐ Cloudy  ☐ Windy

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Make Leaf and Bark Rubbings

Instructions

1. You’ll need one or more crayons with the labels removed, some cardboard or a clip board and some masking tape to help hold leaves or bark in place.

2. When you’re walking outside, collect a few fallen leaves, some bark or other natural materials. It’s best if you find leaves or bark where you can feel bumps or ridges.

3. Once you’ve found your leaves, bark or other items, use tape to secure the edges of the leaves, bark or other materials to the clipboard or cardboard so that they will stay in place while you make your rubbing.

4. Place this paper over the leaves and bark and lightly rub the side of the crayon over the surface of the paper, just hard enough so that the texture shows.

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Move Like a Dinosaur

Have your child(ren) stand at one end of the room. Ask your child to move towards you like a specific dinosaur. Here’s a list of movements to get you started. You and your child can research other dinosaurs and creatures and add to this list.

- **WALK** like a Theropod
  (a bipedal dinosaur that walked on two legs)
- **MOVE** like a Brachiosaurus
  (a quadrupedal dinosaur that walked on all fours)
- **SPRINT** like an Ornithomimus
  (a dinosaur with long thin legs for sprinting or running really fast)
- **GLIDE** like a Microraptor
  (a small bird-like dinosaur that could move smoothly through the air)
- **SLITHER** like a Sanajeh
  (a prehistoric snake that slithered or slid around on its belly)
- **STOMP** like a T. rex!
  (a powerful dinosaur who walked around with loud, heavy steps)
- **DIVE** like a Hesperonis
  (a dinosaur that was good at diving deep underwater for fish)
- **FLY** like a Pteranodon
  (like Tiny, Shiny, and Don, Pteranodons could fly through the air very easily)
- **SWIM backwards** like a Michelinoceras
  (a squid-like creature who lived in the ocean and swam backwards)
- **HOOT** like a Corythosaurus
  (a dinosaur with a large crest on top of its head that made a hooting sound like a horn)

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Moon Journal

Look up at the moon each night and draw what you see!

Date observations started: ______________________

Time to Check Moon Each Night: _______________

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Phases of the Moon

New Moon  Waxing Crescent  First Quarter  Waxing Gibbous  Full Moon  Waning Gibbous  Last Quarter  Waning Crescent

My Ice Observation

Explore vocabulary and science with your child by observing changeable states using ice!

1. First, make some colored ice by freezing some water colored with a drop or two of food coloring.
2. Once the ice is frozen, take it out and put it on a small plate.
3. Have your child look at the cube and draw a picture of the ice in this FROZEN state in the first column.
4. Leave the ice cube out for 15-30 minutes or until the cube is partially thawed.
5. Have your child draw a picture of her second observation in the second column.
6. Talk to your child about the changes she sees. Work with her on comparison words: is the cube bigger/smaller? wetter/dryer? Is there more/less water on the plate?
7. Repeat again in another 15-30 minutes or until the cube is mostly thawed.
I Read It!

Encourage your child to share their thoughts about books they read on their own, or books that you read together. Have your child draw a picture based on the book in the space provided, and then fill in the "My Review" section. If your child is not yet writing, work with them to write their book reviews.

My Book

Book Title: ____________________________

Author: ______________________________

My Review

What I liked best about this book: ________________________________

How I felt after reading this book: _________________________________

I would recommend this book: yes or no (circle one)

Find more games and activities at pbskids.org

Big Summer Tips for Grown-Ups

Go on a learning adventure this summer! Here are some tips to help you play, learn and explore with your family all summer long.

1 Share stories! Share a story with your child and ask him/her to share one with you - you’ll build valuable literacy skills.

2 It all adds up! You can build math skills during everyday errands like counting apples at the grocery store.

3 Take advantage of the great outdoors. Have your child record observations and build science and language skills at the same time!

4 Build a collection. You can practice categorizing, sorting and counting the items and writing labels for a display or scrapbook.

5 Make something. Building anything, from a windsock to a play fort helps your child develop early engineering skills.

6 Use mealtime. Find letters and words on menus or compare prices.

For more ideas and tips visit pbsparents.org/summer