



Unit 4: Ready For Kindergarten

Week 7: Kindergarten Rocks!

LENGTH OF AT-HOME ACTIVITY: 10 to 15 minutes

YOU'LL NEED: The book *Kindergarten Rocks!* by Katie Davis, and a pencil or crayon



ACTIVITY STEPS:

TALK. Tell your preschooler that you are starting a new book today called *Kindergarten Rocks!* Talk with your preschooler about predictions for the text.

ASK QUESTIONS and wait 3-5 seconds for an answer. Example questions:

Do you know what someone means when they say something *rocks*? (You can explain that similar words could be *good, great, awesome, super, neat, etc.*)

What do you see on the front cover?

What do you think this book is going to be about?

RHYME. Say this poem with your preschooler!

My First Day

See me skip, see me run,

I'm going to school like everyone!

See me work, see me play,

I'm in Kindergarten today!

READ *Kindergarten Rocks!* with your preschooler! Make sure to read the speech bubbles, too.

TIP: Help your preschooler understand how Dexter is feeling by changing your voice to show he's worried. Or make up special voices for Miss Sugarmon and Jessie!

TALK with your preschooler about the way that Dexter feels about going to kindergarten. Here are some questions you might ask:

Do you really think that Rufus is worried about kindergarten or is Dexter?

Why do you think Dexter is worried about kindergarten?

Does Dexter change his mind about kindergarten? What does he think about kindergarten by the end of the story?

DEFINE any new words for your preschooler.

QUIZ your preschooler on certain words' beginning sounds. Find words in the story and give your preschooler choices, like "Does *library* start with the same sound as *lunch*, or *cafeteria*?"

REFLECT. Talk with your preschooler about his or her feelings about Kindergarten. Reassure him or her. Ask what he or she is nervous about and talk out those feelings. Make sure to let him or her know that it is okay to be nervous!

FOLLOW UP ACTIVITY: Help your preschooler learn how calm down when he or she is nervous or worried. Take deep breaths together (inhale for 5 seconds, exhale for 5 seconds), cuddle/give big hugs, or try some yoga stretches and poses. Explain to your preschooler that he or she can use these strategies when he or she is feeling nervous about Kindergarten.

WRITING EXTENSION: On the back of this page, help your preschooler write and illustrate a few sentences about Dexter's first day in Kindergarten. What happened? Where did he go? What did he do? Who was there?