

Unit 4: Ready for Kindergarten
Week 1: Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come!

Objectives:

To read *Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come!* with your preschooler, talk about what it will be like to go to kindergarten, and start getting excited about kindergarten!

Materials:

A copy of *Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come!* by Nancy Carlson

Week 1 Lesson Steps:

1. Start by talking with your preschooler about his or her expectations for the book.

Example Questions

- What do you think this book is going to be about?
- What do you think you will do when you go to kindergarten?

Introduction/Ice Breaker

Talk with your preschooler about going to kindergarten. Explain that he or she will go to school and have a nice teacher and make new friends. You can tell your preschooler that he or she will get to learn, play, and eat lunch at school!

2. Read *Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come!* with your preschooler.

Fun and Easy Reading Tips:

- Talk about the different types of animals depicted in the story. Do animals really go to school?
- Help your preschooler identify and sound out familiar words like “a,” “and,” “the,” and “to.” If your preschooler can read other words, that’s great too!
- Help your preschooler count different things in the book. You can count the number of school supplies Henry puts in his backpack, the number of friends in Henry’s classroom, it doesn’t matter what you count as long as you are counting!
- Talk with your preschooler about the different activities that Henry will do in preschool as a way to prepare him or her for kindergarten. Talk about the different activities (such as doing arts and crafts and reading stories) with an excited voice. Make sure to answer any questions your preschooler might have.
- Make connections to what your preschooler already knows about school from going to pre-kindergarten, older siblings, or other books that describe kindergarten.

Follow-Up Activity:

It will help your preschooler be a little bit less nervous about kindergarten if he or she knows where it is. Walk, ride the bus, or drive your preschooler to the elementary school he or she will be attending. If possible, see if you might be able to meet the kindergarten teacher and see the classroom.

Writing Extension:

Help your preschooler write and illustrate a sentence about what he or she wants to do in kindergarten.

Early Developmental Standards Taught in Week 1

- Demonstrate word awareness by identifying familiar words in books and the environment and begin making connection that letters in words make sounds.
- With modeling and support, use a combination of drawing, dictating, and letters to explain information about a familiar topic or informational text.
- Engage in an extended conversation striving for five verbal exchanges between adult and child.
- Show awareness of conventional letter-sound relationships through use of invented spelling in writing.
- Use one-to-one correspondence to accurately count up to 10 objects in a scattered formation.