

Unit 4: Ready for Kindergarten  
Week 8: What's Kindergarten Like?

**Objectives:**

To read *Kindergarten Rocks!* with your preschooler, talk about a typical day in kindergarten, and spend time preparing together!

**Materials:**

A copy of *Kindergarten Rocks!* by Katie Davis

Week 8 Lesson Steps:

1. Start by reminding your preschooler that you are continuing to read *Kindergarten Rocks!* See what your preschooler remembers about the story.

Example Questions:

- What do you remember about this book?
  - What was your favorite part?
2. Read *Kindergarten Rocks!* with your preschooler. You can take turns pretending to be different characters with your preschooler. Help your preschooler read the dialogue for his/her character.

Fun and Easy Reading Tips

- Help prepare your preschooler for kindergarten by talking with him/her about the different places in kindergarten. You might talk about the bus, classroom, cafeteria, gym, library, or computer lab!
- Flip through the story and help your preschooler identify all of the words that he or she can read. Congratulate your preschooler on knowing so many words! You can help your preschooler learn new words by practicing how to sound them out. Remember to be patient. Learning to read is hard work!
- Ask your preschooler to retell you the story once you've finished. Learning how to retell a sequence of events is an important skill for kindergarten!
- Connect the story to what your preschooler already knows. How is kindergarten similar to or different from what your preschooler does during the day?
- Make sure to answer any questions or concerns your preschooler has about kindergarten. New places can be scary, and your preschooler needs to know that you are there to help!

Conclusion:

Today you read *Kindergarten Rocks!* with your preschooler, talked about things to do in kindergarten, and hopefully helped your preschooler feel more comfortable about going to kindergarten!

Follow-Up Activity:

Set up a play date for your preschooler with an older neighbor or family member so that he or she can talk to your preschooler about what kindergarten is really like!

Writing Extension:

Help your preschooler make a short book about the things that he/she does during the day when not at preschool or kindergarten! How are some of these things like or unlike the things that Dexter does at kindergarten?

Early Developmental Standards Taught in Week 8

- Use some letters to represent ideas and inconsistently use conventions of standard English capitalization and punctuation.
- Show awareness of conventional letter-sound relationships through use of invented spelling in writing.
- Develop new vocabulary by engaging in meaningful discussions and activities to promote learning of unfamiliar words found in informational text.
- Demonstrate developing basic knowledge of letter-sound correspondence association by beginning to match the name and initial sound of some consonant letters such as in own name, classmates' names, or common words.