

discovery time

Excuse Me, Please

Parents and caregivers, extend Discovery Time into your home. Share these fingerplays and activities with young children. **The letter for this theme is M.**

Never, Never Pick Your Nose

(Perform actions as suggested by words)

Pick a flower.
Pick some bows.
Pick a treat,
Or pick some clothes.

Pick some buttons.
Pick a book!
Pick some jeans,
Or gobbledygook!

Pick some friends,
Or pick some foes.
But never, ever
Pick your nose!
Yech!

Share Your Toys

(Tune: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

Share, share, share your toys.
Share them with your friends.
It's so fun to share your toys;
Sharing has no end.

Friends

(Tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star")

We say, "Thank you." We say, "Please."
We don't interrupt or tease.
We don't argue. We don't fuss.
We listen when folks talk to us.
We share our toys, we take our turn.
Good manners are important to learn.

Oh, Before I Eat My Meals

(Tune: "If You're Happy and You Know It")

Oh, before I eat my meals, I wash my hands.
(Scrub your hands)
Oh, before I eat my meals, I wash my hands.
(Scrub your hands)

Oh, it's very smart I think,
Sends those germs right down the sink.
Oh, before I eat my meals, I wash my hands.
(Scrub your hands)

Magic Words

There are three little, magic words
(Hold up three fingers)
That will open any door with ease.
(Put hands together, then open wide to the side)
Two little words are, "Thank you!"
(Hold up two fingers)
And the other little word is, "Please!"
(Hold up one finger)

Thank You

(Perform action as suggested by words)

My hands say thank you,
With a clap, clap, clap.
My feet say thank you,
With a tap, tap, tap.
Clap, clap, clap.
Tap, tap, tap.
I turn around,
Touch the ground,
And with a bow,
I say, "Thank you," now.



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Help your child get ready to read with these simple activities.

- **Talking:** Talking about manners is a good vocabulary building opportunity. Discuss scenarios and ask your child how a person could respond to the situation with good manners.
- **Singing:** Try singing a song with your child from this handout. First sing very slowly, then very quickly, and then hum.
- **Reading:** Check out books from the library with characters that have good and bad manners. Discuss with your child how the characters in the story acted, and what they could have done differently.
- **Writing:** Have your child draw what good manners look like. She could draw a person eating dinner with utensils or a child sharing toys. Discuss the drawings as a family.
- **Playing:** Have a tea party with your child. Practice good manners with him such as setting the table, using a napkin, and saying *please*, *thank you*, and *excuse me*.

family literacy tip

Major Content Areas

Current scientific research indicates that we can, indeed, provide effective instruction in three of the major content areas that have been shown to be most predictive of later success in learning to read. These areas are phonemic awareness, knowledge about print (i.e. the alphabet, letters, letter/sounds), and oral language, particularly vocabulary. The attention of parents and early childhood educators should be focused on doing all they can to stimulate early growth in these areas.

NCLD Editorial Staff. "Tips for Preventing Early Reading Failure." *Get Ready to Read*, <http://www.getreadytoread.org/early-learning-childhood-basics/early-literacy/tips-for-preventing-early-reading-failure>. Accessed 14 November 2018.



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