

Let's make a list!

Let's play and talk together

- ❖ Invite your child to help you plan an activity that you can do together, e.g. going to the market, getting ready for a birthday party or cleaning the house before a special event.
- ❖ Ask your child to help you think of all the things you will need to remember. As you think of each idea, make a list using just a few words for each item. Encourage your child to suggest words that will remind you of each item.
- ❖ Show your child how you write each item on its own line. If your child is ready, encourage him or her to guess what letter to use at the beginning of each word.
- ❖ When you have finished your list, read it aloud together. Help your child follow along by pointing to each item as you say it.
- ❖ Encourage your child to help you with the activities you have listed. Show your child how to mark off each item when it is completed.

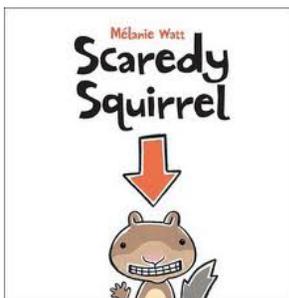


Hints for success

Sit side by side as you make the list so your child can see how you shape the letters and words.

Print with capital letters because they are easier for young children to recognize.

A good read-together book



Scaredy Squirrel by Melanie Watt

You will need a pencil and a scrap of paper.

This activity shows children how their thoughts and ideas can be written down, and how writing can be useful in everyday activities.

What words should we write to help us remember the birthday candles?

Can you find the word "Milk" and mark it off?

Ways to say it

More ideas for Let's make a list!

Try this way

- ❖ Invite your child to draw pictures for each item on a list instead of writing words.
- ❖ At bedtime, help your child make a list of his or her activities for the next day.
- ❖ Make lists just for fun, e.g. a list of your favourite foods or a list of good friends.

Early reading and writing

Keep a list of familiar words that your child can recognize, e.g. MOM, DAD, STOP, etc. Post it where your child can see it and read what it says. As your child learns to recognize more words, add them to the list. Provide pencil and paper if your child seems interested in copying the list or making his or her own.

Book link

Wallace's Lists by Barbara Bottner and Gerald Kruglik

