







August | Back-to-School Ready: Building Routines & Confidence

Follow MPT's Media STEPs and use trusted media to inspire learning anytime, anywhere!

You will discover ways to play and learn with children using hands-on activities and free digital content featuring their favorite PBS KIDS characters.



Topic	Select	Talk	Explore	Play	More ways to play and learn	For Grown-ups
Excited to Learn 	Watch PBS KIDS Talk About: Back to School to hear real kids and parents share their thoughts on starting a new school year.	Ask your child what they are curious to learn this year in school. Talk with them about setting goals for a new school year .	Find photos of your child's school or visit the building. You can check out the school website to go on a virtual tour.	Together, role-play going to school with toys or siblings as classmates.	Game: Detective Donkey Printable Activity: Donkey Hodie Goal Rings	Article: Building Your Child's Confidence, One Step at a Time Video: Word on the Street: Confidence
Starting School Soon 	Watch the Daniel Gets Ready for School video clip and find out how he gets ready for the new school year.	Ask your child, "What do you think you need to be ready for your first day? What are you excited or nervous about?"	Try out your morning routine together — waking up, getting dressed, and packing your backpack.	Draw or cut out pictures of foods that match your school's lunch or snack menu. Together, try baking a batch of make-ahead snacks like oatmeal muffins !	Game: Classroom Helpers Game Printable Activity: Back-to-School Checklist	Activity List: Creating Daily Routines for Kids Article: Back-to-School Transition Tips for Parents and Kids
Managing Big Feelings 	Play Arthur's Back to School game together and get familiar with his classroom!	Encourage your child to draw pictures, write down their thoughts and feelings, or talk about how they feel about starting school.	Take a practice trip to school together, and reach out to staff if your child may need extra support.	Have fun making a cardboard giant pencil to store all the school supplies.	Game: Kindergarten Helpers Printable Activity: Arthur Bookmark	Activity List: Going Back to School Article: Managing Back-to-School Feelings With "Arthur"
Being a Good Friend 	Watch PBS KIDS Talk About: Friendship to hear real kids and parents share their thoughts on being a good friend!	Ask your child, "What makes someone a good friend? How can we be kind to new classmates?"	Check out your local library for empathy-building books that foster friendship.	Practice friendship skills by taking turns, sharing toys, and role-playing helpful phrases like "Can I play too?" or "Thank you!"	Game: Finball Friends Printable Activity: Fuzzy Friends Coloring Page	Article: Help Your Child Be a Kind Friend Lesson Plan: Friends Work Together



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For more activities, visit: [Thinkport.org/families](https://thinkport.org/families)

