

Kindergarten Prep

COURSE BOOK

Written by Jenny Phillips

A special thanks to the many educators, reading specialists, homeschool parents, and editors who gave invaluable input.



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➤ About This Course ➤

Little children’s hearts and minds are most impressionable during the preschool years, so it’s an important time for molding the way they view learning. Your enthusiasm while teaching in a positive and uplifting manner can help foster a love of learning and a desire for all things good and beautiful. This course strives to assist you in creating a solid educational foundation through fun, interactive, hands-on lessons that require minimal preparation.

The Kindergarten Prep course should be completed after the Preschool course but before the Level K course.

What Does the Course Set Include?

- **Full-color course book** (64 pages plus punchout activity pages)
- **Songs and videos**

All the songs used in this course are available for free on the Good and Beautiful Homeschooling app. The app can be downloaded for free at goodandbeautiful.com/apps. Within the app, go to Language Arts > Kindergarten Prep > Videos. Many of the songs and videos can also be viewed on The Good and the Beautiful Kids YouTube channel.

How to Get Started with This Course

Gather items to always have on hand for the course. **No other preparation time is required for the entire course except for occasionally gathering supplies needed for the lesson.**

To complete lessons, simply follow the instructions on each page. Text in blue is instructions to you; text in black is what you read to the child. When a page is completed, check the “completed” circle in the upper right-hand corner of the page.

Items to Always Have on Hand

- Access to videos
- Crayons
- Glue stick and glue (squeeze bottle)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Whiteboard and dry-erase marker
- Craft knife (for preparation of some lessons)

Extra Items Needed

Lessons sometimes require additional items.

You can find a breakdown of which items are used in which lessons on page iii.

Important Safety Notice

Because this course suggests using buttons and pennies, please monitor all young children in your home around these items at all times to prevent choking. If you feel these items put any of your children at risk, do not use the items. The buttons and pennies are optional, and the activities can be done without them.

ITEMS NEEDED:

* A feather

LESSON 8

Completed

- Have the child count to 10.
- **Read to the child:** Look at the picture on this page. What a lovely swan! I will read you a poem about the swan.

 White swan on the blue pond,
 Drifting along so slow;
 Your yellow beak is smooth and bright,
 And your feathers are pure as snow.

 I will read it again and pause after every line,
 and you repeat the line.
- **Give the child a feather.** Now, I will tell you a number, and you tap the number on the swan with the feather. Say the numbers in random order. Complete the activity one or more times.
- **Read to the child:** Each time I say a word aloud, tell me how many sounds [letter sounds, not syllables] are in the word and then what the sounds are. Say IF. Say ON. If desired, write down each letter as the child says its sound to help him or her make the connection between the sounds and the word.
- Have the child count how many baby swans are following each mother and draw a line from each box to the correct number.

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Course & Lesson Overview

The Kindergarten Prep course consists of 30 lessons. Each lesson is 1–3 pages, is parent-directed, and provides detailed teaching for children ages 3–5. The course helps the child master letter sounds, reading of two-letter words and three-letter CVC (consonant vowel consonant) words, counting and numbers, rhyming, and recognition of the vowels. The course also shows the child how to use correct pencil grip, covers beginning handwriting skills such as tracing straight and curved lines, and helps the child practice fine motor skills.

Items Needed: If extra supplies are needed for a lesson, they are listed at the top in a green box.

Lesson Text: Blue text is instructions to the parent. Black text is for the parent to read aloud to the child.

Completed: When a page is completed, check the circle at the top.

Extra Items Needed by Lesson

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>Lesson 1: 10 buttons</p> <p>Lesson 3: 10 buttons</p> <p>Lesson 5: 10 buttons</p> <p>Lesson 7: A feather</p> <p>Lesson 8: A feather</p> <p>Lesson 9: A feather, 5 buttons</p> <p>Lesson 10: 10 buttons</p> <p>Lesson 12: A dull butter knife or plastic butter knife</p> <p>Lesson 13: 8 buttons</p> | <p>Lesson 15: 5 buttons</p> <p>Lesson 17: 5 buttons</p> <p>Lesson 18: 5 pennies</p> <p>Lesson 19: A key</p> <p>Lesson 20: 5 pennies</p> <p>Lesson 21: 10 buttons</p> <p>Lesson 22: 10 buttons, a brad fastener</p> <p>Lesson 29: A cotton swab and a small glob of paint</p> |
|---|--|

➤ Frequently Asked Questions ◀

How long should a lesson take?

Lesson length will vary greatly between children. Have the child do as much work each day as the child's attention span will allow. You do not need to complete exactly one lesson a day. You might do less than or more than one lesson. Look for cues of frustration or fatigue to help you know when to end. The child will learn much from you as you display love, patience, and enthusiasm for learning.

Rather than making it a goal to finish a lesson each day, use this course to help you meet the needs of the child. For example, if the child is loving one of the games and wants to play it again and again, do it. Don't feel as if you need to stop so that you have time to finish a full lesson that day. If the child is grumpy, make sure he or she is not hungry or tired; pause to take a walk or do another activity until the child is ready to learn. If at any point in the course you sense that the child would work better by completing half a lesson each day, or part of a lesson at times, you can feel comfortable allowing him or her to do so. At this age it's important that the learning feels like fun to the child, rather than something forced or unpleasant.

Do you include any specific doctrine?

No, the goal of our curriculum is not to teach doctrines specific to any particular Christian denomination but to teach general principles, such as honesty, hard work, and kindness.

How can I create a positive learning environment?

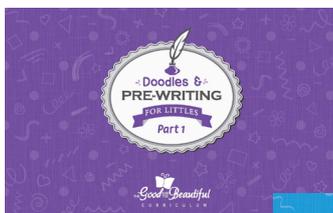
Be as positive with the child as possible during a lesson. Look for genuine and meaningful ways to praise him or her. For example, instead of saying "You are so smart!" you might want to say things that praise the child's EFFORTS, such as the following: "You are such a hard worker. You are such a good listener today. I'm so grateful for your cheerful attitude. You are so much fun to work with. Your smile makes me so happy. Thank you so much for not giving up!"

What should I do if my child struggles when using scissors and glue?

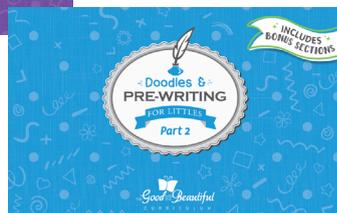
Children develop motor skills at different rates. Let the child work as independently as possible with things such as cutting and gluing, but do not allow too much frustration before you step in to help.

➤ Recommended Resources ◀

Check out these amazing optional resources for your preschool child at goodandbeautiful.com.



Develop fine motor skills by covering pre-writing strokes and formations.



Encourage a love of reading and learning through wholesome, high-quality books for your child, available at goodandbeautiful.com/library.

Build listening, comprehension, attention, and other valuable skills with our beautifully illustrated free audio books available at goodandbeautifulstorytime.com.



Course

OVERVIEW

➤ Lessons 1 to 30 ◀

- Mastering Recognition of Uppercase and Lowercase Letters
- Mastering Letter Sounds
- Reading Two-Letter and Three-Letter CVC (Consonant Vowel Consonant) Words
- Identifying Beginning, Ending, and Middle Sounds
- Recognizing Vowels
- Colors
- Introduction to Word Families
- Numbers: 1 to 15
- Motor Skills
- Rhyming

Important Note

While this course reviews and cements letter recognition and the sounds of letters, the child needs to have these items mastered before starting this course. If these items are not mastered, it is suggested your child complete *The Good and the Beautiful Preschool Course*. If the preschool course has already been taken but the child doesn't quite have the letters mastered, use the Preschool Folder Activities that come with the preschool course and accompanying flashcards until the letters are mastered.

