

Kindergarten Prep

COURSE BOOK




The Good and the Beautiful
CURRICULUM

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.

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.

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.

5

2

3

..... 16
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Extra Items Needed by Lesson

Lesson 1: 10 buttons

Lesson 3: 10 buttons

Lesson 5: 10 buttons

Lesson 7: A feather

Lesson 8: A feather

Lesson 9: A feather, 5 buttons

Lesson 10: 10 buttons

Lesson 12: A dull butter knife or plastic butter knife

Lesson 13: 8 buttons

Lesson 15: 5 buttons

Lesson 17: 5 buttons

Lesson 18: 5 pennies

Lesson 19: A key

Lesson 20: 5 pennies

Lesson 21: 10 buttons

Lesson 22: 10 buttons, a brad fastener

Lesson 29: A cotton swab and a small glob of paint



➤ 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?

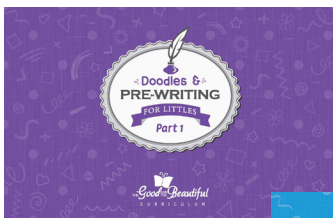
Be as positive with the child as possible during a lesson. Look for genuine and meaningful ways to praise him or her. For example, instead of saying "You are so smart!" you might want to say things that praise the child's EFFORTS, such as the following: "You are such a hard worker. You are such a good 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?

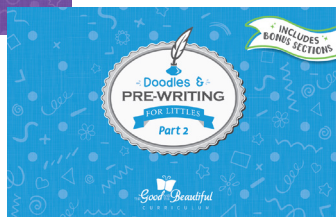
Children develop motor skills at different rates. Let the child work as independently as possible with things such as cutting and gluing, but do not allow too much frustration before you step in to help.

➤ 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.

LESSON 1

Completed ☐

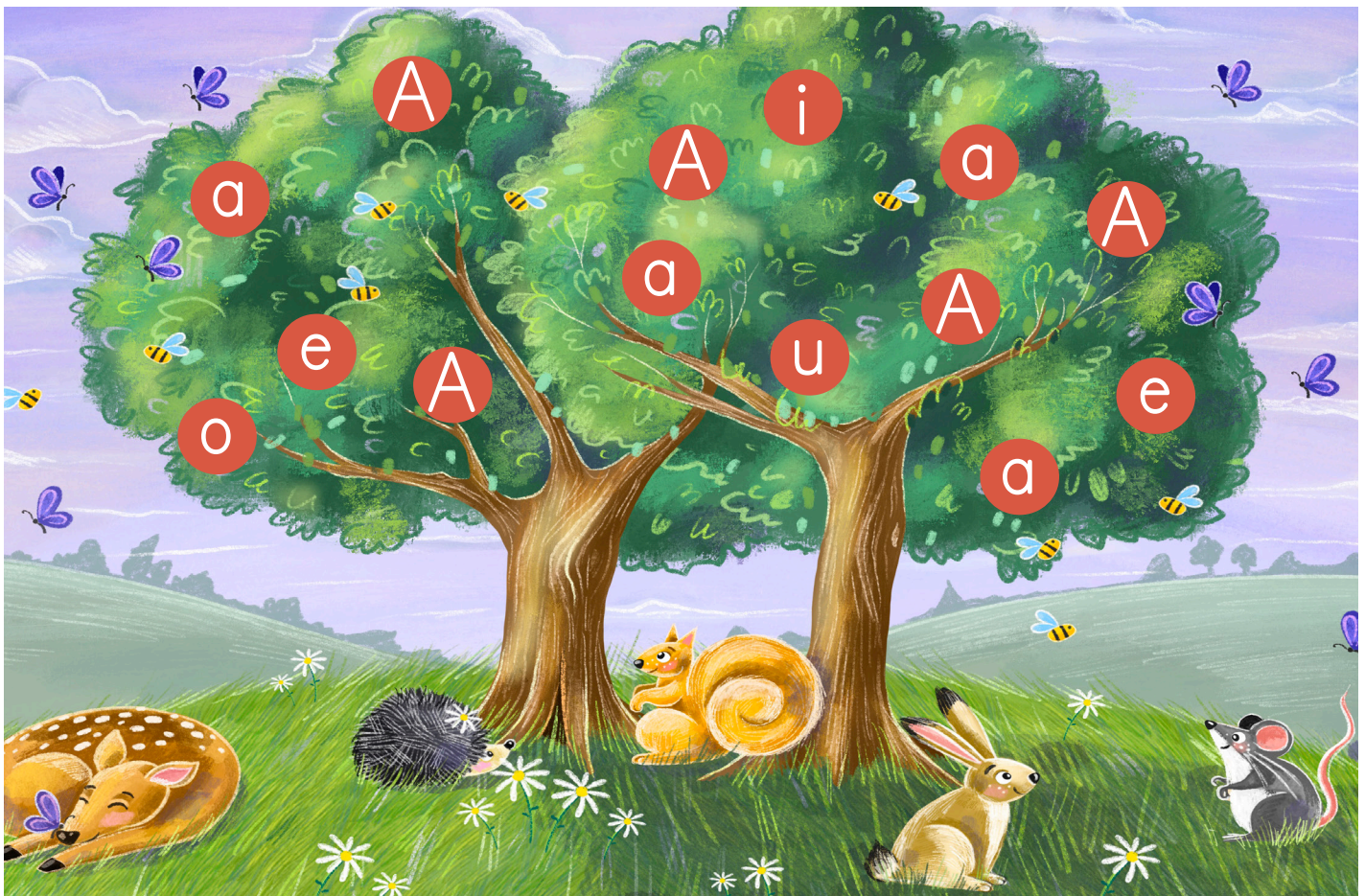
ITEMS NEEDED:

* 10 buttons

- **Read to the child:** I'm excited to teach you this course! We will have a lot of fun learning together. There are 26 letters in the alphabet. How many letters are in the alphabet? [26] Some of the letters are special—they are called vowels. The vowels are A, E, I, O, U, and sometimes Y. Let's watch a video about the vowels. [Watch the video Vowel Song](#). [See page ii for information on accessing videos](#). If desired, encourage the child to sing along.
- **Read to the child:** The purple circles show the vowels A, E, I, O, and U. Point to each vowel and say its sound. Children should make the most common sound the vowel makes (the short sound): [/ă/ as in AS /ĕ/ as in ED /ĭ/ as in IN /ŏ/ as in ON /ŭ/ as in UP]

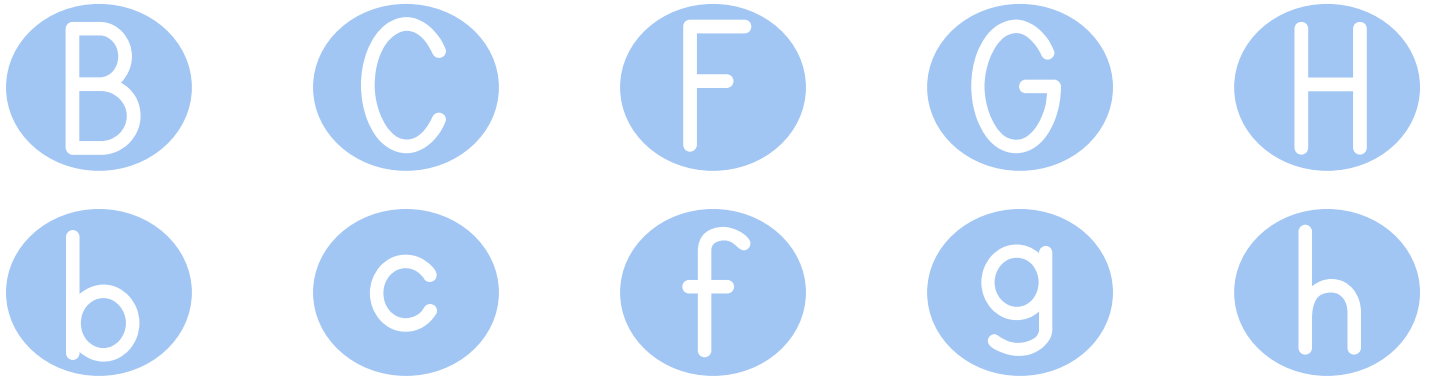


- **Note:** A makes multiple sounds. To avoid confusing the child, only the short sound (the most common sound) of A is taught in this course. **Read to the child:** Today we will focus on the first vowel: A. With your thumb and index finger, grab all the apples on the tree that have an uppercase or lowercase A. As you grab each apple, say "A says /ă/ as in APPLE."

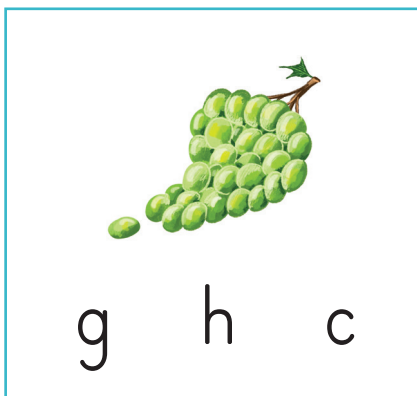
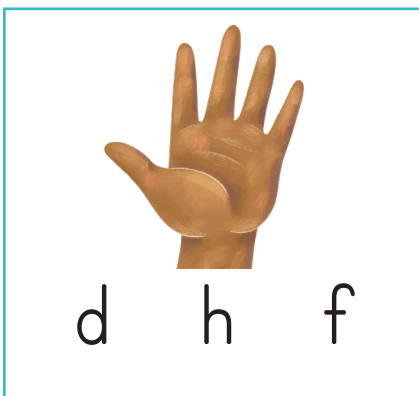
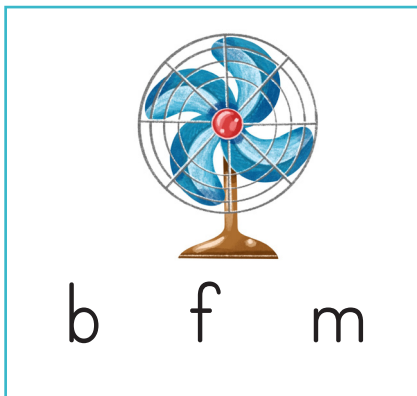


- Have 10 buttons ready. Read to the child: Look at the letters in the blue circles below. Point to each letter and tell me its sound and then its name, including if it is uppercase or lowercase. Demonstrate for the child if needed, pointing to uppercase B and saying “/b/ uppercase B” and so on. Make sure the child does not add /uh/ to the letter sounds, like “BUH.”

Give the child the 10 buttons. I will say a letter, and you put a button on that letter. Say these letters, waiting in between for the child to put a button on the letter: uppercase F, lowercase C, uppercase H, lowercase G, uppercase B, lowercase B, lowercase F, uppercase C, lowercase H, uppercase G.



- Have the child say the name of each item and then say the letter it starts with. Then have the child circle the letter the item starts with.



- Play “Alphabet Freeze.” Sing the alphabet to the child while the child dances or moves around. At any point in the alphabet, suddenly stop; have the child freeze in place and tell you the next letter in the alphabet.

LESSON 2

Completed ☐



- Watch the [Vowel Song](#). If desired, encourage the child to sing along.
- Have the child cut out the boxes on the next page by cutting along the dashed lines. Then have the child say the sound and name of each letter set. Several times, have the child put the vowels in order (A, E, I, O, U, and sometimes Y). Then ask “Which letter says /ă/?” and so on for each letter.
- Read to the child: We are going to talk about how to hold a pencil. Have the child follow these steps to hold a pencil correctly, or watch the video [Pencil Grip | How and Why to Teach It](#). Note: Proper pencil grip can be very difficult for children and can take the whole course to master. Do not push the child to the level of frustration when working on pencil grip, but work on it gently and consistently.

Pencil Grip



Pinch the pencil right above the sharpened area.

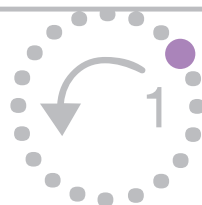
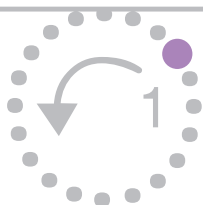
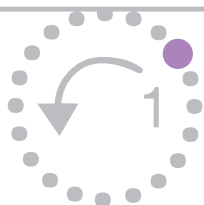
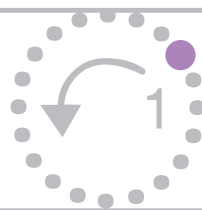
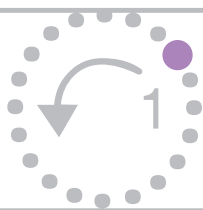
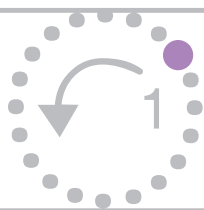


Flip the pencil to rest against your hand.

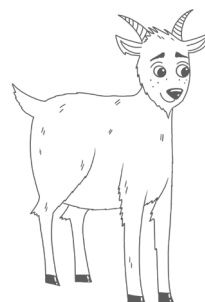
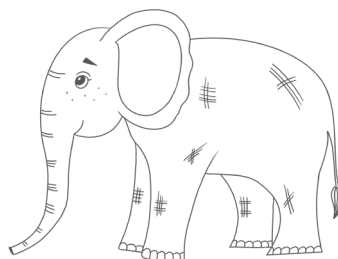
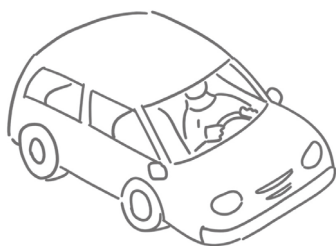
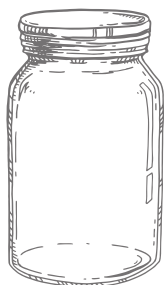


Rest your middle finger under the pencil and tuck back your other two fingers.

- Have the child trace the lowercase Os, starting on the purple dot. The child should follow the arrow all the way around the circle to the purple dot again without lifting the pencil.



☐ Have the child color all the items that rhyme with FAR.



☐ Have the child connect each kite to its owner by drawing a line from the uppercase letter to its matching lowercase letter.



A

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

b

a

c

f

d

h

e


g




Choose a Pet Cat

- ☐ Read to the child and have the child complete the instructions: Animals can bring us a lot of joy! Let's imagine that you get to choose one of the cats on this page to have as a pet. First, we will learn the pets' names. For each cat, point to the first letter in its name and say the sound the letter makes. I will then tell you the name of the cat. Have the child point to the first letter in each name and say the name of the letter. Then let the child choose his or her favorite cat on the page. Tell the child that names always start with an uppercase letter, just like all the names on this page.



-  **Read to the child:** Great job reading the password! Now you get to enter the castle. Today you get to visit the castle kitchen! In upcoming lessons you will get to visit other parts of the castle. In the kitchen there are uppercase and lowercase vowels. Can you find the lowercase A, circle it, and say its name? After the child finds the lowercase A, have the child find the following lowercase vowels in order: E, I, O, and U. Now, find each uppercase vowel, circle it, and then say its name.



-  In each blue box, have the child draw a line from the uppercase letter to its matching lowercase letter, saying aloud “uppercase A” and “lowercase A” and so on as each letter is connected.

A
a o

B
g b

C
c h

D
m d

E
e g

ITEMS NEEDED:

- * 10 buttons

- a e i o u

-
- An illustration of two hands holding a yellow card against a purple background. The card displays the words 'fa', 'fo', 'fe', 'fu', and 'fi' in a black, sans-serif font. Each letter has a small black arrow below it, pointing to the right, indicating the direction of the stroke used to write the letter. The hands are wearing blue, patterned gloves.

- [illegible]

- Write the child's first name on a whiteboard or paper. Have the child copy the name 2 to 3 times.
 - Read to the child: Look at this beautiful painting. It's so peaceful and shows the beautiful world our mighty God created.
1. Point to the whitest part of the clouds. What letter does WHITE start with? Point to the darkest part of the clouds. What letter does DARK start with?
 2. Do you see the girl and the goat? Wouldn't it be fun to be walking on the path with them? What letter does GIRL end with? What letter does GOAT end with?
 3. Look how the sun is shining on the path by the girl. What letter does SUN end with?
 4. Look at how some beautiful sky is peeking through the clouds. What color is the sky? What else do you see in the picture that is blue?



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- ☐ **Read to the child:** For your last trip to the castle, the king has prepared a feast in your honor! The food is all set, and the guests are about to arrive. Count the chairs at the table. Point to the bowl of fruit. What letter does FRUIT start with? End with? Point to a tray of strawberry tarts. What letter does TART start with? End with? Point to the ham. What letter does HAM start with? End with? What color are the roses?



- ☐ In each blue box, have the child draw a line from the uppercase letter to its matching lowercase letter, saying aloud "uppercase P" and "lowercase P" and so on as each letter is connected.

| | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| P a p | Q q b | R c r | S a s | T t s | |
| U a u | V v m | W n w | X x a | Y y c | Z s z |



- Read to the child: Look at the picture on this page. What a cute house! I will read you a poem about the house.

Little house up on the hill,
You are so cute; you are so still.
Inside the walls a family prays
And lives and loves and works and plays.

Now I will read it again and pause after every line, and you repeat the line.

Great! Now count how many words are on the picture.

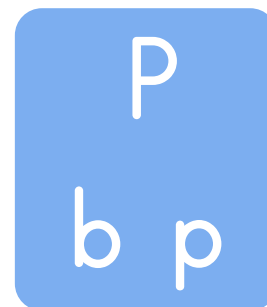
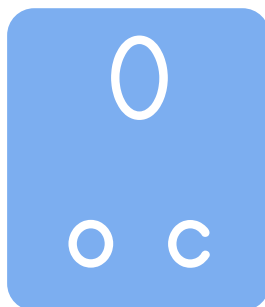
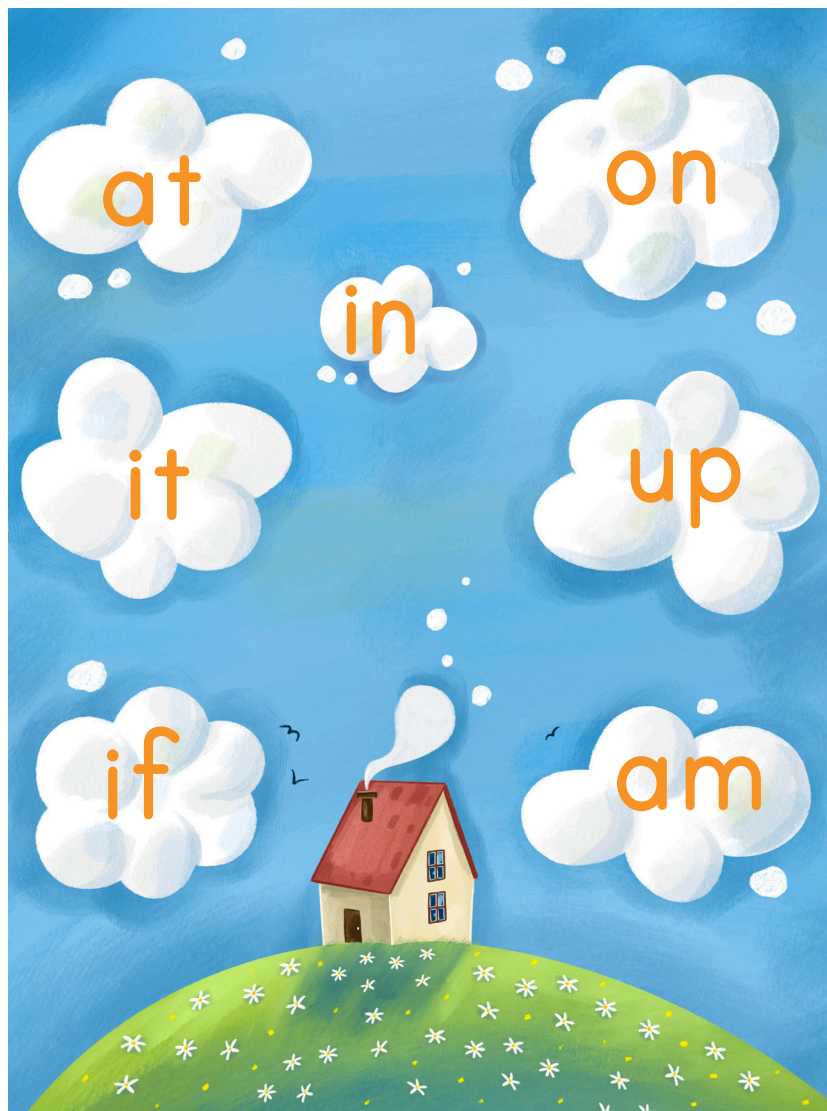
Point to each cloud and read the two-letter words on the clouds.

- Read to the child: Stand up! I will read you some instructions:

- Pat your elbow three times.
- Touch your shins.
- Point to your chin.
- Close your eyes and touch your eyelashes.
- Touch your eyebrows.
- Tap your forehead.

- Read to the child: Each time I say a word aloud, you tell me each sound in the word. Say AT. Say ON. Say IT. If desired, write down each letter sound as the child says it. This helps visual learners to make the connection between the sounds and the word.

- In each blue box, have the child draw a line from the uppercase letter to its matching lowercase letter.



LESSON 28

Completed ☐

- Have the child sing the alphabet song. Work on any sections the child does not know well.
- Have the child read the words in the green box.
- Have the child say the vowels in order. [A, E, I, O, U, and sometimes Y]
- Have the child count to 15.
- **Read to the child:** Look at the picture on this page. Aren't the bears so cute? I will read you a poem about them.

Mother bear and baby bear
Are snuggled up so tight.
Safe and warm they will sleep
Through the peaceful night.

I will read it again and pause after every line, and you repeat the line.

- **Read to the child:** Now, I will tell you a number, and you tap that number by the bears with your finger, but do it very lightly and be careful not to touch the bears so you don't wake them up. **Say the numbers in random order. Complete the activity one or more times.**
- **Read to the child:** Circle all the As in the blue box. What does A say? [/ă/ as in APPLE]

a o a
p a o
o a u



- Have the child read the sentence in orange.

It is an ox.

- * A cotton swab and a small glob of paint

○ if

Note: Some concepts taught in this course (such as rhyming) are not reviewed as they do not need to be mastered before moving on to the Level K Course.

- Remove this page. With a craft knife, cut a slit in the picture of the box below on the dashed line. Cut out the letter boxes on the next page. In random order, lay out on the table all the boxes with blue letters. Read to the child: We are going to pack letters into this box today. I will tell you a letter, and you find it and pick it up. Tell me the sound the letter makes, and then put it into the box through the slit. Say the letters in random order, including if they are uppercase or lowercase (e.g., “uppercase M”). On a separate paper, keep track of any letters or sounds that are not mastered. Repeat with the letters in purple.

If More Practice Is Needed: Have the child watch The Good and the Beautiful letter sound videos daily.

- Have the child recite the alphabet without help.


If More Practice Is Needed: Have the child watch the video [ABC Song](#) on the Good and Beautiful Homeschooling app or The Good and the Beautiful Kids YouTube channel. See page ii for information on accessing the videos.

- Have the child recite the vowels in order. [A, E, I, O, U, and sometimes Y]

If More Practice Is Needed: Have the child watch the video [Vowel Song](#) on the Good and Beautiful Homeschooling app or The Good and the Beautiful Kids YouTube channel. See page ii for information on accessing the videos.

- Write the numbers 1 to 15 in random order on a whiteboard. Say a number and have the child erase it. Repeat until all the numbers are erased.





In preparation for kindergarten, this course primarily focuses on

- ★ mastering letter recognition and sounds
- ★ mastering vowels

The child will also

- begin reading two-letter and three-letter words
- continue practicing colors, motor skills, numbers, and rhyme

