

## Some Favorite Resources for Early Math and Science

**PBS Parents** - <http://www.pbs.org/parents/>

PBS Parents helps parents, childcare providers, and teachers caring for and educating children by offering educational activities and resources designed by experts in child development, and other areas. The site includes PBS Kids program information, an up-to-the minute PBS Kids local TV schedule, tips for enjoying playtime together, thematic booklists, Q&A with guest experts, and articles for Spanish-speakers. The site also includes a robust search tool that helps parents, providers, and teachers find activities that develop certain skills in certain areas.



The screenshot shows the PBS Parents website in a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The browser's address bar displays <http://www.pbs.org/parents/>. The website's header features the "Iptv PBSparents" logo and a navigation menu with links to Home, Issues and Advice, Fun and Games, TV Programs, My PBS Parents, and Site Guide. On the left side, there is a "PBS Parents Guides" sidebar with a search box and a list of categories including Child Development, Children and Media, Creativity, Early Math, Going to School, Raising Boys, Reading and Language, Talking with Kids, and Birthday Parties. The main content area includes several featured articles: "Are You the Next PBS KIDS Star?" (a search for a preschool program host), "Make Time to Talk with Your Kids" (flexible communication strategies), and "What Is Phonics, Anyway?" (a quiz on phonics basics). A "My PBS Parents" section on the right offers a login form with fields for email and password, a "Sign In" button, and a link to "Forgot your password?". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, several open applications (Inbox, PBS Parents, Microsoft Office), and the system clock displaying 3:20 PM.

- **PBS Parents: Guide to Early Math** - <http://www.pbs.org/parents/earlymath/index.html>

The PBS Parents Guide to Early Math site is an online "math coach" for parents, providers, and teachers looking for ways to nurture the development of children's early math skills. The site gives ways to encourage a child's natural interest in math, and to provide the foundation for math experiences that a child will draw from later in school.

Keeping in mind that each child's growth and development is unique, the site offers a continuum of developmentally appropriate concepts from birth to second grade, as well as ways to explore them. In addition to interactive games that can be done with a child on the computer, the site provides hands-on, printable activities that can be done almost anywhere - in the home, at the grocery store, in the car, or on special occasions.



- **PBS Parents: Activity Search** - <http://www.pbs.org/parents/fungames/>  
Find activities by choosing a favorite PBS KIDS program, an activity type, or a specific skill (e.g. Math & Numbers). Choose one to help narrow your search or choose all three!
  - Choose which PBS KIDS program you want to see activities for
  - Choose an activity type
  - Choose a skill to see activities that emphasize a particular ability
  - Click "Get Activities"
- **PBS Parents: Bookfinder** - <http://www.pbs.org/parents/bookfinder/>  
A collection of favorite books for kids to help adults choose books that will engage children.
  - Choose an age group
  - Choose a theme
  - Choose Read-to-self or Read-aloud
  - Click "Go"

TeacherSource | PBS - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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- From the Start: <http://www.pbs.org/teachersource/prek2.htm> provides additional resources for PreK-2 educators, including a monthly thematic unit of online activities, articles about issues in early childhood education, recommended books and links, and printables in Spanish and English for teachers to give to parents to help them reinforce the educational messages their children receive in the classroom. In addition, educators can search topical lists of lesson plans tied to PBS KIDS programming and correlated to national and state standards.

- Under the category of Preschool Math resources are available under the following topics:
  - Data Analysis/Probability
  - Geometry and Spatial Sense
  - Measurement
  - Numbers and Operations
  - Patterns and Algebraic Thinking
- Under the category of Preschool Science & Technology resources are available under the following topics:
  - Atmosphere & Space Science
  - Classification
  - Design & Invention
  - Earth Science
  - Life Science
  - Physical Science
  - Transportation

## **PROGRAMS AND MUCH MORE**

***Backyard Safari*** introduces four-to seven-year olds to topics in science and natural history and encourages children to investigate the natural world and develop positive connections with scientific practice. Children see themselves as “scientists” who turn off the television, step outside, and learn from the world around them.

- For broadcast dates and times for the ***Backyard Safari*** series go to the K-12 Classroom Television Resource at [http://www.iptv.org/k12catalog/list\\_detail.cfm?ShowID=11](http://www.iptv.org/k12catalog/list_detail.cfm?ShowID=11)

***Cyberchase*** is an animated adventure series and multimedia project for children ages 6-11 about a team of kids on daring missions in Cyberspace. Kids discover that math is fun and something we experience all around us everyday. The *Cyberchase* kids talk through math problems to show viewers feel that they too can be good at math and problem solving. The series' Web site includes a section for parents and teachers.

- ***Cyberchase*** returns to IPTV's weekday schedule on Monday, February 27, 2006 at 1:30.
- Visit ***Cyberchase*** online at <http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/>

***IPTV's Healthy Minutes*** video messages and companion activities promote healthy lifestyles and positive choices. The videos encourage positive health choices, good nutritional practices, personal safety, good decision making, and many other important skills that promote health and wellness. Resources for grown-ups are also available.

- Visit ***Healthy Minutes*** online at <http://www.iptv.org/kids/healthyminutes/>

***It's a Big Big World*** is a series designed for kids ages three through six that uses engaging characters and compelling stories to captivate children with the guiding educational principle is that science is a process of discovery, and viewers learn to discover science, animals, geography, and the big, big world around them. The series Web site has parent and teacher resources.

- ***It's a Big Big World*** airs on IPTV Monday-Friday at 10 a.m. and Saturdays at 7 a.m.
- Visit ***It's A Big Big World*** online at <http://pbskids.org/bigbigworld/>

***Math Monsters***, is a series for children in preschool through second grade based on NCTM standards, specifically features problem solving, mathematical communication and reasoning. Each 15-minute program focuses on a single concept and has built-in "pause points" for opportunities to stop the video and engage students in discussion or activities.

- For broadcast dates and times for the ***Math Monsters*** series go to the K-12 Classroom Television Resource at [http://www.iptv.org/k12catalog/list\\_detail.cfm?ShowID=59](http://www.iptv.org/k12catalog/list_detail.cfm?ShowID=59)

***Sesame Street's*** 36th season features new curriculum designed to help children and families establish an early foundation of healthy habits. A ***Health Moment*** begins each show with special guests and beloved *Sesame Street* characters who deliver key messages about healthy habits for everyday life. Every other show features a ***Health Module***, a cluster of four segments highlighting healthy habits. *Sesame Street's* target audience is preschool children 2 to 4 years of age.

- ***Sesame Street*** airs on IPTV Monday-Friday at 9 a.m. and on Sundays at 8 a.m.
- ***Sesame Street*** Web sites:
  - [www.pbskids.org/sesame/](http://www.pbskids.org/sesame/) for children's games, Letter of the Day, Number of the Day, Spanish Word Game, Journey to Ernie, Coloring Pages, Elmo's World, and a Caregivers area in both English and Spanish.
  - [www.sesameworkshop.org/sesamestreet/](http://www.sesameworkshop.org/sesamestreet/) for children's games, stories, art, music, email, and parent area with great reference materials.
  - <http://www.sesameworkshop.org/healthyhabits/> for information about Sesame Workshop's ***Healthy Habits for Life*** initiative, interactive games, activities, and printable coloring pages for children, as well as articles and tips regarding children's health for parents.

***Zoboofoo*** uses music, songs and sounds from around the world to focus on that great moment of discovery when kids meet animals for the first time. Zoboofoo is a playful and curious lemur who teaches children how to respect and care for the creatures with which we share the planet. The target age for the ***Zoboofoo*** series is preschool and young school-aged children and their families.

- Visit the ***Zoboofoo*** Web site at <http://pbskids.org/zoboofoo/>

**PBS Parents - Struggling to Learn: Understanding and Recognizing: Math Disabilities** – This is an online article with links to other helpful resources: [http://www.pbs.org/parents/strugglingtolearn/understanding\\_math.html](http://www.pbs.org/parents/strugglingtolearn/understanding_math.html)