

PRINTABLES GENIUS SHEET

**OUR PRINTABLES ARE TRIED AND TRUE AND
BUILT BY PARENTS IN THE THICK OF RAISING KIDS.**

We've kept them simple, so you can add your own personal tweaks, and tailor them to your life.

Life with kids is like a constant update, so print them out as many times as you need to change the plan. There's no need to squish in new info and cross old stuff out.

Try these genius tips:

1. Use different coloured pens for different kids if you need to combine everyone on a single chart. Consider following these colours through to everything else (lunchboxes, drink bottles, bags, name tags).
2. Print several at a time and staple/clip together so you have a fresh chart when needed, and you have the old one still there to refer to.
3. Laminate and use a wipeable pen if you need to tick or regularly add your own scribbles to the chart. Handy too for minor tweaks.
4. Establish a "family command centre" to stick up your printables. This way everyone knows where to find the info.

Different ways to display your charts:

- Magnets on the fridge or magnetised board.
- Pegs on string or wire.
- Pins on a pin board.
- Velcro dots on a wall, fabric board, or a carpet square on the wall.
- Use picture frames on the wall and pop your charts into these.
- Think transportable, and slip charts into clear plastic folders and keep a neat stack on your command centre, office, or somewhere visible on the kitchen bench.
- Using a photo album, create a chart book. Make sure everyone can access it when they need to. Make your book look beautiful and easy to spot.

10 PRE-READING ACTIVITIES

Learning doesn't only happen in a formal setting. When kids see words all around them, it helps them learn to read and write.

1.

Put down your phone (and your child's device) and just talk. Communicating is the first step towards literacy.

2.

Read to your child regularly, at least once a day. Letting them lead the way is important, so if they love trains, read about trains. Listen to audiobooks in the car together for even more exposure, but don't let audiobooks replace handling physical books. Paper books help kids learn how to read from left to right, and to associate words on the page with sounds.

3.

Ask questions about the stories, for example, why did Red Riding Hood go into the forest, or how did the little yellow digger get stuck?

4.

Hunt for the written word in the wild: point out signs, newspaper headlines, writing on food packaging.

5.

Show them individual letters.

6.

Recite rhymes and poems together.

7.

Play rhyming games and make up new rhymes.

8.

Advanced: Ask your child to listen to a word, remember it and then remove part of it in their head. Use compound words at first, such as toothbrush, starfish, newspaper, firework, spaceship.

9.

Advanced: Help them hear sounds in words. Ask them what sound comes at the beginning of cat, mat, bat. Ask what sound comes at the end.

10.

Advanced: Manipulate sounds. Say "big", then ask your child to change the "b" to a "d". What word do they hear?

