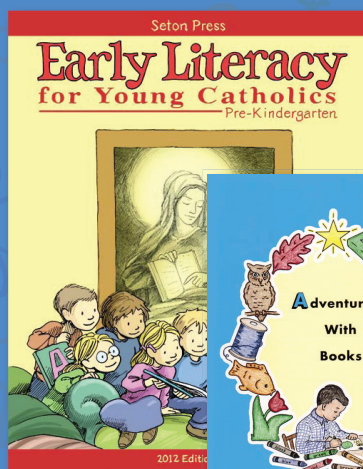




EARLY LITERACY PK

COURSE MANUAL



LESSON PLANS - QUARTER REPORT FORMS

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Course Materials

- *Early Literacy for Young Catholics Pre-K Activity Book*
- *Adventures with Books* (Christian)
- *Do It Carefully* (Christian)
- *Annie and the Wild Animals*
- *Blueberries for Sal*
- *Johnny Appleseed*
- *Miss Rumphius*
- *The Queen & the Cross* (Catholic)
- *The Saint and His Bees* (Catholic)





FIRST QUARTER

EARLY LITERACY PK LESSON PLAN

UNIT ONE: GOD MADE THE WONDERS OF CREATION

Take the time to re-savor the beauty of creation with your child, and to give thanks to God.

Refer to the table of contents in *Early Literacy For Young Catholics* for a list of skills introduced in this Unit.

Refer to page 3 of this lesson plan for information regarding the read-aloud books.

Week One

ITEMS NEEDED:

- Child-sized scissors
- Magazine picture or a photo of something beautiful God has created
- Lettuce leaves that your child can help tear up for salad

Day 1

You can check off work
as you complete it!



Early Literacy: p. 2, God Made the Wonders of Creation

☐

The directions are simple but important. Looking and talking about something beautiful God has created is a way to help your child use new vocabulary. Printing your child's words on the paper while he watches is the first step in word-to-print correspondence, which is a necessary skill for future reading.



Early Literacy: p. 3, God Made the Earth, the Water, and the Sun

☐

Discuss what is happening in the picture. Make circles in the air (see p. 8 **Heavenly Writing** for explanation) before having your child trace and color this page. Help your child to use a "tripod grasp," which is the correct grasp for the smoothest use of a pencil or crayon. See FAQ section of book for more information on teaching the tripod grasp.



Adventures with Books: p. 9

☐

Day 2



Early Literacy: p. 4, God Made the Moon, the Stars, and the Sky

☐

Scribbling is a precursor to writing as well as good exercise for pre-school fingers, and the first stage in learning to use a pencil or crayon.

**EARLY LITERACY PK LESSON PLAN****Early Literacy: p. 5, Hello, Yellow!** ☐

Encourage oral expression by asking your child questions about the picture. What is the duck doing? What is the hen doing? What do you think they might be saying? Make up your own story to go with the picture. Help your child to practice making circles in the air.

**Adventures with Books: p. 10** ☐**Day 3****Early Literacy: p. 6, God Made the Trees and the Grass** ☐

Today your child will trace vertical lines, color with brown, and snip with scissors. See FAQ section for tips in teaching your child how to use scissors. Even junk mail can be used, if you first cut it into strips, then let your child snip it over the trash can. He can be your personal shredder!

Day 4**Early Literacy: p. 7, I See Green** ☐

Talk about the picture. Is your child readily using verbs to describe actions? The frog is *riding* on the turtle. The turtle is *walking*. Tearing is another fine motor skill which is not easy for little ones. It requires using a pincer grasp with each hand, then tearing by pulling the lettuce in opposing directions. Tearing strips of paper into bits develops stronger hand muscles.

**Adventures with Books: p. 14** ☐**Early Literacy: p. 8, Heavenly Writing** ☐

This is an explanation page for you and your child, which we referred to earlier. Take time to try this a few times today with a circle, a vertical line and the letter T. Making a letter or stroke in the air provides more receptive input for your child.

Week Two

ITEMS NEEDED:

- 3-ring binder with blank or lined paper
- Clear vinyl shoe holder (the over-the-door type) with 24 pockets
- Sharpie marker
- Yellow and blue food coloring
- Pictures depicting words that begin with T (possibly a tabernacle or St. Therese)
- Small items that begin with the sound of /t/

EARLY LITERACY PK LESSON PLAN

Day 1



Early Literacy: p. 9, A Time for Turtles

☐

Practice Heavenly Writing for the letter T. Make the letter T on large vertical surfaces such as a chalkboard. Using a large paintbrush dipped in water, make T's on an outside wall if weather permits. Color and count the turtles. Try making T's in salt on a large kitchen tray or cookie sheet with sides (see p. 23 for picture.) After working with Heavenly Writing, try making T's on a large vertical surface like a blackboard. After using these sensory approaches, have your child try writing T using a pencil.

Day 2



Early Literacy: p. 10, I Can Say "T"

☐

Sound of /t/. Introduce the sound by saying it clearly, and close to your child, so he or she can see your mouth. "This letter says /t/." Show each picture to your child, emphasizing the initial sound. "This is a **tiger**. **Tiger** starts with the /t/ sound. Can you say it? Listen to this word: **turtle** starts with the same sound as **tiger**. Can you hear it? They start with the same sound, /t/." Emphasize that **tuba** also starts with the /t/ sound. Find the T's on the page. Color the tiger.



Start letter pockets.

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Use an over-the-door, clear vinyl shoe holder with 24 pockets to make a "sound sorting center." Use a sharpie (permanent marker) to label each pocket with an uppercase alphabet letter, one letter per pocket. Combine the letters W with X, and Y with Z on the last two pockets. As you play the games with your child, save some small, safe items that begin with /t/ to store in the letter pocket. (Tooth brush, tape, tea bag.) You will continue to use letter pockets throughout the year, as each sound is introduced.

Day 3



Early Literacy: p. 11, There's a Tiger in My Tub

☐

Help your child to point to all the things that begin with /t/. Start your child's alphabet notebook in a 3-ring binder. Make a sheet with the newly introduced letter. Your child may trace the letter. For extra reinforcement, help your child to find or draw pictures depicting words which begin with that letter to glue on the opposite page. This is a good place to reinforce Catholic imagery and vocabulary. Look for a picture of a Tabernacle or St. Therese. Remember to print the word under the picture while your child watches.



Do It Carefully: p. 48

☐

Day 4



Early Literacy: p. 12, A Tiger and a Turtle Too

☐

**EARLY LITERACY PK LESSON PLAN**

A rebus story uses pictures to tell a story. Help your child “read” the rebus pictures as you read the sentences. Point with your finger, left to right. This teaches tracking from left to right, an important skill for reading. Pointing to the T’s on the page reinforces recognition of the letter.

**Early Literacy:** p. 13, Blue Too! ☐

Talk about all the things in the picture. Does your child know the words: tulip, goldfish bowl, treasure box, Blessed Virgin Mary, halo? Do you have a statue in your home of Mary wearing blue robes? Take time to say a little prayer to Our Lady today, with your child asking for her help.

**Early Literacy:** p. 14, You Make a New Color ☐

Follow the instructions for this experiment with color. Let your child help get it ready, do the experiment, and record your child’s observations. You are introducing basic scientific investigation today!

**Adventures with Books:** pp. 8 and 13 (if time permits) ☐

Week Three

ITEMS NEEDED

- Cereal box, oatmeal carton, or shoe box
- Glue
- Green tempera paint or washable green stamp pad
- Pencil with flat-end eraser
- Sticky notes
- Cookie pan with sides
- Salt (see picture, p. 23) to use in practicing letters
- Pictures depicting words that begin with O—for example, words that begin with the long /o/ sound (oatmeal, oval, oak tree) and words that begin with the short /o/ (“ah”) sound (octopus, owl, olive)
- Small items that begin with the long or short /o/ sound. (Note: Because of the difference in sounds between the long /o/ and the short /o/, you might want to stick to one or the other sound for now.)

Day 1**Early Literacy:** p. 15, I Met a Tiger Today ☐

Help your child to say the names of the pictures and circle those which begin with /t/. Today, your child is using the previously practiced circle in a more functional way.

**Supplemental Activity:** Feed the Tiger. This simple game will reinforce the sounds heard at the beginning of a word. Use an empty cereal box, oatmeal carton, or shoe box. ☐