**Here are some phonics activities that you can do at home! ☺**

Read Aloud

Reading out loud to your child helps with every aspect of reading skills. When you're focused on helping with phonics skills, choose books that emphasize letter sounds, rhyming and other decoding strategies. Alphabet books, such as those by Jerry Pallotta, or Lois Ehlert's "Eating the Alphabet," help kids learn letter sounds. Parents and caregivers can also question a child as they read a familiar book by asking him to point to particular words or letters or by having him "read" the next word.

Letter Collages

This activity can take up a whole rainy afternoon. Parents should give kids a piece of construction paper or poster board, scissors, glue and a pile of magazines. The child can just simply cut out any letters they see and glue them to the paper or poster board. As she works, you can review with her which letters she is cutting out and what sounds those letters make. For a child who recognizes most letters, choose one to focus on and write that letter at the top of the paper or board. Then let her cut out pictures of things that start with that letter, such as cutting out bumblebees and balls for a page about the letter "b".

Letter or Word Walk

Parents can take their child on a letter walk around their neighborhood or town. While walking, have your little one find words or letters on signs, streets and buildings. Once your child recognizes all of her letters, caregivers can write down the words seen, or the kiddo can have a special letter walk notebook to record words seen. Be sure to review the words seen on the walk at home, so that soon your little one will recognize common words like, "stop" or "store".

Word Book

Once your child recognizes most letters and sounds, you can make a word book together. Parents can stack a few sheets of white paper together and fold it in half to make a simple book. On the front cover, write a word family, or phonogram, such as "-op" or "-at." On each inside page, have your child help you pick a word from the family to write. For example, if you wrote, "-id" on the front, you might write "kid" and "lid" and "slid" on the inside. Then your child should draw a picture to illustrate each word, leaving her with a book she can read on her own when you are finished.

**Here is a great website as well!**

<http://cedu.niu.edu/leed/literacyclinic/raisingReaders/The%20Jerry%20L.%20Johns%20Literacy%20Clinic/Phonics.pdf>