# Pre-K 4, week 21: the letter r and taller or shorter

This week your learner will hear the r sound, compare which things are taller and shorter, and plant a bean to watch it grow. Each activity takes about 10 minutes. Print the pages, or do them with things you already have at home.

**5-minute prep**

- Write a big R and a small r on a sheet of paper.
- Gather a clear cup, a paper towel and a few dry beans.
- Print pages 2 to 5, or skip printing and use the no-supplies swaps.

**Household supplies:** Paper, crayons, a clear cup, a paper towel, a few dry beans, water. No supplies? Every card has a swap.

## The week at a glance

| Day | Focus | Pieces |
|---|---|---|
| Monday | Letter r | Letter r page, Rrr sound hunt card |
| Tuesday | Math | Taller or shorter page, Taller or shorter card |
| Wednesday | Explore | Seed to plant page, Bean in a cup card |
| Thursday | Make and move | Rain for the roots page, Grow like a seed card |
| Friday | Story and review | Song of the week, Parent notes page |
| Every day | Read aloud, sing, play outside | Read any picture book together, sing the song of the week, and do a feelings check-in. |

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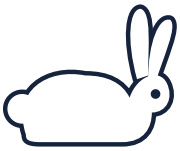
**Safety**

- Use objects too big to fit in your learner's mouth, and stay close during any counting with real objects.
- Child-size scissors only, with an adult watching. Hand scissors over handle first.
- Choose crayons, markers and paint labeled for young learners (look for the AP seal).
- Adults handle anything hot or sharp.

# Letter r

Say: "R says rrr, like a rabbit, a rock and rice." Your learner traces the big R and the small r, then colors the pictures that start with r.

R r



rabbit



rock

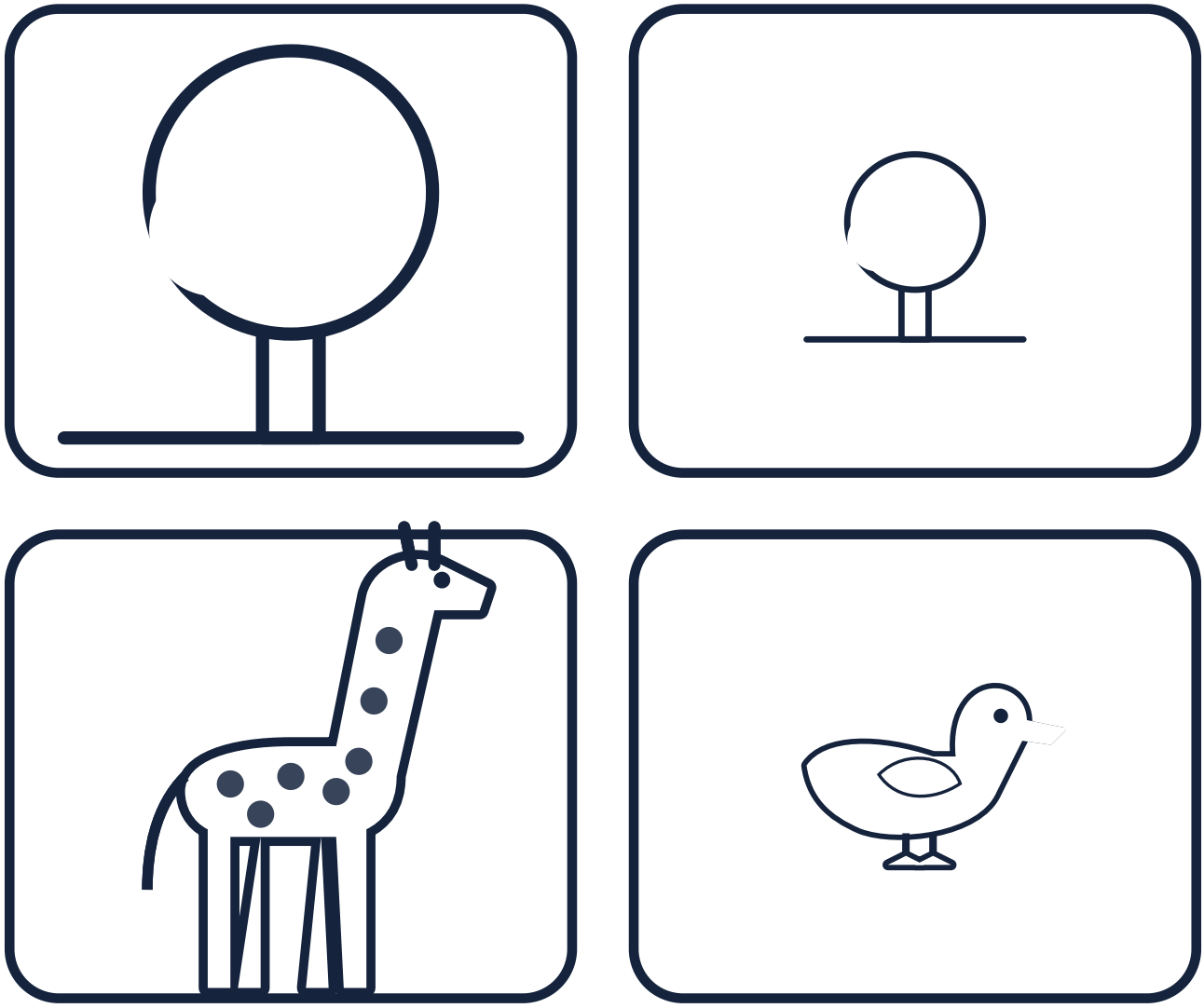


rice

**No supplies swap.** No printer? Draw an r in the air, then on your learner's back with one finger.

# Taller or shorter

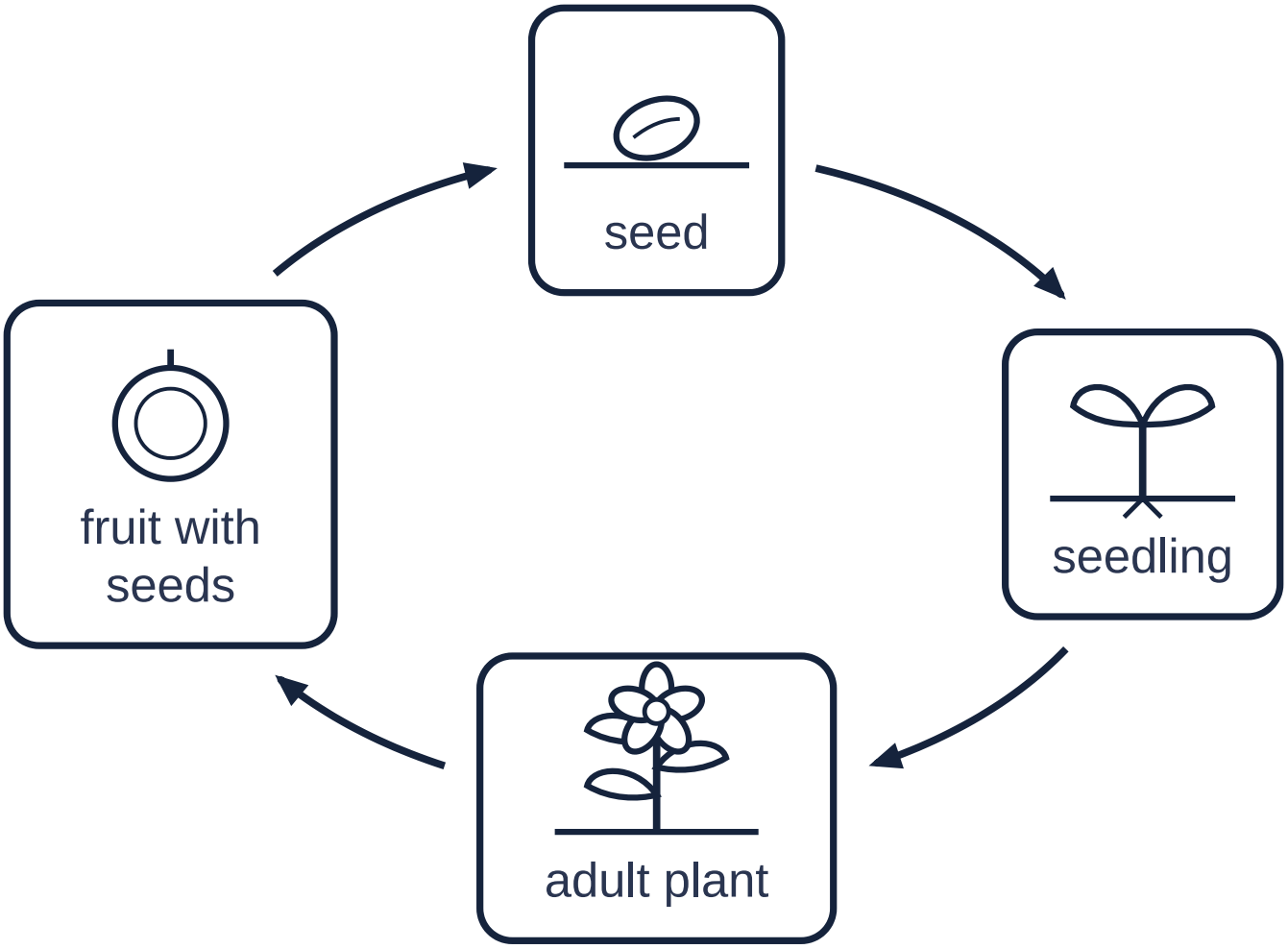
Say: "Look at the two trees. Which one is taller?" Your learner points to the taller picture in each pair and colors it. Then they point to the shorter one.



**No supplies swap.** No printer? Stand back to back with your learner and ask who is taller.

# Seed to plant

Say: "A seed grows into a plant. Start at the seed and follow the arrows." Your learner points to each picture in order and says what happens next, then colors the pictures.




**No supplies swap.** No printer? Tell the story with your hands: a small fist is the seed, then fingers open like leaves.

# Rain for the roots

Say: "The rain falls on the garden. Start at the green dot." Your learner traces the wavy lines from left to right with a crayon.



**No supplies swap.** No printer? Draw wavy lines with a wet finger on a dry plate or a tray.



## Rrr sound hunt

**Time:** 10 minutes · **You need:** Nothing

1. Say "rrr" like a little motor together.
2. Look around the house for things that start with r: rug, rock, radio.
3. Say each word slowly and stretch the r.

**Easier:** You name the thing; your learner says "rrr". **Next step:** Ask "Does rabbit start with r? Does cup?"

**Say this:** "Rrrug. Rug starts with rrr."

**No supplies:** Play it as "I spy something that starts with rrr."

**Builds: Literacy: phonological awareness · Stay close and keep small objects away from mouths.**

cut here



## Taller or shorter

**Time:** 5 minutes · **You need:** 2 or 3 things from around the house, like a cup, a bottle and a box

1. Stand two things side by side on the table.
2. Your learner points to the taller one.
3. Swap one thing and ask again.

**Easier:** Use two things that are very different in height. **Next step:** Line up 3 things from shortest to tallest.

**Say this:** "The bottle is taller than the cup."

**No supplies:** Compare your learner with a chair, a door handle or a table.

**Builds: Math: measurement · Stay close and keep small objects away from mouths.**



## Bean in a cup

**Time:** 10 minutes, then a look each day · **You need:** A clear cup, a paper towel, a few dry beans, water

1. Fold the paper towel and press it inside the cup.
2. An adult slides 2 or 3 beans between the towel and the cup, where you can see them.
3. Your learner adds a little water to make the towel damp, then you check the beans every day.

**Easier:** Your learner pours the water while you hold the cup. **Next step:** Ask "What came out first, the root or the leaf?"

**Say this:** "We have to wait. Seeds grow a little every day." Dry beans are a choking risk: an adult holds them and puts the rest away.

**No supplies:** No beans? Look for seeds in an apple or an orange at snack time.

**Builds: Science: seeds and growing · Stay close and keep small objects away from mouths.**

cut here



## Grow like a seed

**Time:** 5 minutes · **You need:** Space to move

1. Curl up small on the floor like a seed.
2. You say "rain" and your learner wiggles.
3. You say "sun" and your learner grows up slowly, tall like a plant.

**Easier:** Grow up in one move. **Next step:** Grow as slowly as you can while you count to 10.

**Say this:** "Rain, sun, grow, grow, grow."

**No supplies:** Needs nothing but space.

**Builds: Physical: gross motor · Stay close and keep small objects away from mouths.**

# Song of the week: Little seed

Little seed, sleeping round,
Tucked in deep under the ground.
Rain comes down and sun comes through,
Up, up, up, a plant for you.

**Actions:** Curl up small, then grow up tall on the last line. **Try next:** Sing it again very slowly, like a plant that takes its time.

Original UpOnly Learning words, say or sing it in any rhythm

## Parent notes: what did you see this week?

This is not a test. Tick what you noticed, and practice the rest next week. Keep this page; it stays with you.

| I saw my learner… | Seen it | Not yet |
|---|---|---|
| Says the r sound | ☐ | ☐ |
| Finds r on a page | ☐ | ☐ |
| Points to the taller of two things | ☐ | ☐ |
| Tells that a seed grows into a plant | ☐ | ☐ |

Next: week 22 of 36. If you have concerns about your learner's development, talk with your pediatrician.

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