

## Frequently Asked Questions

See below for answers to your Foundations® Pre-K Activity Set questions! If you don't find what you're looking for here, [please reach out to us](#). Our Customer Support team will be happy to help.



## Materials

### When should materials be ordered?

To ensure timely delivery, materials should be ordered as soon as the decision has been made to move forward with the Foundations® Pre-K Activity Set.

### Are materials available electronically?

No, Foundations® Pre-K Activity Set materials are not available electronically. They are packaged in an attractive box that is easily transported. Set materials include:

- Foundations Pre-K Teacher's Activity Guide (includes Cue Cards and membership in the Pre-K Learning Community)
- Baby Echo Owl Finger Puppet
- Large Sound Cards
- Standard Sound Cards
- Magnetic Strips
- Alphabet Wall Strip
- Pre-K Basic Keywords Poster
- Vowel Extension Poster
- Keyword Puzzles
- Large Writing Grid
- Manuscript Letter Formation Guides
- Letter Formation Poster
- Trace & Write Grids
- Trace & Write Flipchart

## Program Overview

### Is the Foundations® Pre-K Activity Set a complete literacy program?

The specific activities included in the Foundations® Pre-K Activity Set are designed to support students' emerging understanding of the alphabetic principle of letter-sound associations and the written language skill of manuscript letter formation. Although not intended to provide a full pre-k literacy curriculum, skills taught align with those that the Report of the National Early Literacy Panel (2008) identified as strong and consistent predictors for later literacy development. The Pre-K Activity Set strongly supports the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework (2015) as well.

Skills practiced with the Foundations® Pre-K Activity Set:

- Letter-Sound Knowledge
- Forming Key Linkages (between letter names, formations, and sounds)
- Alphabetic Principle
- Alphabetical Order
- Letter Formation/Handwriting

## **Is the Foundations® Pre-K Activity Set developmentally appropriate for students at this age?**

Yes, the Foundations® Pre-K Activity Set is developmentally appropriate. It provides an introduction, or “pre-dose,” to the letter-sound and writing skills that are taught to mastery in the Foundations Level K program.

The skills taught align with those identified by the Report of the National Early Literacy Panel (2008) as strong and consistent predictors for the later development of literacy skills:

- Knowledge of the names and sounds associated with printed letters
- Ability to manipulate the sounds of spoken language
- Ability to rapidly name letters, numbers, objects, or colors
- Ability to write isolated letters or one’s name
- Ability to remember spoken information for a short time

The Pre-K Activity Set also strongly supports the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework (2015), which expects that a preschool child “recognizes and names at least half of the letters of the alphabet” and “produces the sounds of many recognized letters.”

## **Program Implementation**

### **Is the Foundations® Pre-K Activity Set for whole or small-group instruction?**

The focus during the first semester is on teaching the alphabetic principle of letter-sound correspondence with the whole class. Students practice:

- Recognition of the alphabetical order of letters a-z
- Letter name, keyword, and sound for the 26 letters of the alphabet (letter-sound correspondence)
- Visual connection between the letter name, its sound, and its grapheme (or written representation)

During the second semester, further development of letter-sound correspondence (alphabetic principle) continues with the whole class, and letter formation skills are introduced in small groups. Students practice:

- Letter formation of lowercase letters
- Letter formation of uppercase letters
- Association of a sound with a written letter

### **How long are the lessons?**

Foundations® Pre-K is implemented over a school year. The amount of time for daily activities will vary, depending on where the class is in the school year and the number of students in small groups. Once students have learned many of the letters, more time will be needed for the activities, but it should not take any longer than 10-15 minutes for whole-group instruction and 5-10 minutes for each small-group instruction (added in the second semester).

For more helpful information, please watch a [recording of our overview webinar](#), explore the [Foundations Pre-K Learning Community](#), or visit our [website](#).

## Training

### **Can you describe the Foundations® Pre-K training option?**

Foundations® Pre-K workshops are offered to the public in a live, virtual setting and there are no prerequisites. Called the Foundations® Level Pre-K Virtual Launch Workshop, the training provides the practice and guidance needed to begin effectively using the Foundations® Pre-K Activity Set. The workshop is four hours long and covers an overview of the program, a review of the Pre-K Activity Set activities, a look at the materials needed, and an overview of the resources available in the Foundations Pre-K Learning Community. You may view and register for the workshops [here](#). You may also [contact us](#) to help you schedule the best option for you or your team.

### **I'm unable to provide teacher coverage for a workshop. What else can I provide to my educators to prepare them for Pre-K Activity Set implementation?**

For those who cannot attend a public workshop, the Pre-K Teacher's Activity Guide (included in the Pre-K Activity Set) explicitly guides teachers through the program and provides detailed descriptions of the activity procedures and sequence of skills taught in the first and second semesters. Additionally, purchase of the Guide includes membership in the Foundations Pre-K Learning Community (in Wilson Academy®), providing access to demonstration videos and printable materials.

We suggest that after logging into Wilson Academy® and navigating to the Foundations Pre-K Learning Community tile, teachers click on the Demonstration Videos tile and watch the Getting Started - Background and Overview video. Then, prior to beginning their first lesson, teachers are urged to watch the three First Semester Demonstration videos. Likewise, before starting their second semester of instruction, teachers are encouraged to watch the three Second Semester Demonstration videos. Teachers may refer back to these videos as needed throughout the year.

### **Where can teachers using the Foundations® Pre-K Activity Set find resources/tips?**

Foundations® Pre-K teachers can visit the [Foundations Pre-K Learning Community](#) to find additional helpful resources and tips.