

Create a Print-Rich Learning Environment

To promote literacy in your classroom, you'll want to create a print-rich environment. Here are some easy ways to create a print-rich environment and materials available in *Three Cheers for Pre-K* that can help.

1 Label Classroom Objects and Spaces

Environmental print is often one of the first things a child can read. When children see the golden arches, most immediately know what that means. Putting print labels on classroom objects such as tables, chairs, doors, and whiteboards is an easy and effective way to make environmental print a part of children's daily lives in school.

Three Cheers for Pre-K also offers materials that can add to the environmental print in your classroom.



Center Signs have both an illustration and print to label each classroom center.

The **Mood Meter** poster, which is used in the daily instruction, has labels for emotions.



2 Display Children's Names

Another early piece of print that a child learns to read is his or her name. Welcome to Today, in every *Three Cheers for Pre-K* lesson, provides two good opportunities to display children's names in the classroom as part of the daily routine—Attendance and Helper Chart. As an added bonus, daily instruction related to Attendance often has children matching letters in their names to the letters on the **Alphabet Cards**.



3 Have Books Available for Children

It's important to set up areas in your classroom where children can read or listen to books. Daily interaction with books has a positive impact on literacy development. In *Three Cheers for Pre-K*, Centergize offers two reading centers to go with every theme. The Reading and Listening Center utilizes digital versions of the program literature, while the Cozy Corner offers ideas for print books you may want to have children read. Little Book versions of the program Big Books are just the right size for little ones to cozy up with.



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Connect to Print Whenever Possible

Daily exposure to print is important, but it's even more important to connect to print in your instruction. *Three Cheers for Pre-K* offers several opportunities every day to connect instruction to print.

Many of the cards that are part of *Three Cheers for Pre-K* have the picture on the front and the word on the back, giving you an opportunity to connect to the print when you use these cards in the instruction.



Picture Cards



Vocabulary Cards



Social and Emotional Learning Cards

In addition, the **Sing, Rhyme, and Shout Cards** include the title and lyrics for songs that are sung daily during Welcome to Today.

I Am Special

I am friendly, I am sweet.
Yes, I am. Yes, I am.
I am nice to friends I meet!
I am special!

Sing to the tune of "London Bridge Is Falling Down."

Sing, Rhyme, and Shout

Marvelous Me!

The card features a blue header with the title "I Am Special" in bold. Below the title are the lyrics of the song "I Am Special". At the bottom, there are three cartoon characters: a green tree with a face, a pink character with a face and arms, and a yellow character with a face and arms. The card has a blue footer with the text "Sing, Rhyme, and Shout" and "Marvelous Me!".