# Screen time that teaches

Peabody · checked 2026-11-06

If the screen is going on anyway, make it count: Peabody's free games ask a short reading or math question as a child plays, at the grade they pick, with no ads, no chat and no sign-up. Start with Rainbow Hop, Pet Hatch and Build World, then stories and typing.

## Games that practise reading or math

- Game: Rainbow Hop · What kind: Preschool · What a child does: Build a Fun Park ride by ride; every question is said aloud. · Practises: counting, making ten, first sounds, rhymes and more
- Game: Pet Hatch · What kind: Virtual pet · What a child does: Hatch, feed and ride pets, paid for with coins that carry a sum or a word. · Practises: making ten, adding, first sounds, rhymes and more
- Game: Build World · What kind: Building · What a child does: Build a world block by block, with a question to earn new blocks. · Practises: counting, making ten, first sounds, rhymes and more
- Game: Wake the Dragon · What kind: Runner · What a child does: Run out of the dragon's tunnels with a pet helper beside you. · Practises: counting, making ten, first sounds, rhymes and more

Every Peabody game quietly asks a short reading or math question as a child plays, at the grade they pick, and the questions climb by themselves when the answers are right. A Just play mode turns them off. There are no ads, no chat and no in-game purchases, and coins can never be bought with money.

## Screen time that is not a game

- Activity: The library · What kind: Read · What a child does: Free stories by reading level, to read together or alone, with no account. · Ages: 3 and up
- Activity: Peabody TV · What kind: Read · What a child does: The library's books as read-along shows. · Ages: 3 to 7
- Activity: Typing games · What kind: Play · What a child does: Learn the keyboard with races and lessons. · Ages: 6 and up
- Activity: Animals: compare two · What kind: Explore · What a child does: Pick any two animals and see which is bigger, faster or lives longer. · Ages: 5 and up
- Activity: Space · What kind: Explore · What a child does: The planets in order, and what each world is like. · Ages: 6 and up
- Activity: The Body · What kind: Explore · What a child does: Tap the skin, muscles, bones, heart and organs to see what each does. · Ages: 6 and up

- Activity: Chess · What kind: Play · What a child does: A daily puzzle, a game to play and the openings explained. · Ages: 7 and up
- Activity: Music · What kind: Music · What a child does: Song sheets in any key, the Chord Finder, Beat Buddies and the sing-along. · Ages: 5 and up

## How to make screen time count

- Sit with them for the first five minutes. Say the answers out loud together; it turns a game into a conversation.
- Pick the game before the screen goes on, so the choosing is not part of the screen time.
- Use a timer the child can see. The picture timers show the time running out, which makes stopping easier.
- Follow it with something off the screen. A story from the library printed or read aloud, or one of the indoor activities.
- Under 3, less is better. The World Health Organization advises no sedentary screen time for 1-year-olds, and no more than an hour for 2-year-olds.

For more on screens and families, the grown-ups' guide is screen time on Peabody Parents. Everything here is free through the end of 2026, with no ads, no sign-up and nothing to download.

## Questions parents ask

### What is good screen time for kids?

Screen time where a child is doing something: reading a story, answering questions in a game at their level, building, or learning to type. Watching together and talking about it helps more than any one app.

### Are these educational games really free?

Yes, through the end of 2026, with no ads and no sign-up. An account is never needed to play.

### Can I set a time limit?

With a free Peabody family account you can set time limits from the parent console. Without one, a picture timer works on any device.

### Is my child's data safe?

Nothing a child does is shared, and the games have no chat. A visitor's saves stay in the browser on that device.

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Free at peabody.kids/screen-time-that-teaches