The more your child interacts with the Upstart program, the more they learn!

Waterford Upstart is adaptive, providing targeted instruction to meet your child’s unique needs. Waterford Upstart students who engage with the software for 15 minutes five days a week can easily meet or exceed the recommended usage goal of 1,500 minutes in the digital learning path. Short, frequent sessions work best for learning new skills, so establishing a daily learning routine is important! And our research shows that, on average, students who meet the 1,500-minute milestone reach a kindergarten-intermediate level and are well prepared for kindergarten!

With 1,500 minutes in the digital learning path, your child will learn to:

- Spell their name
- Recognize most capital letters and many lowercase letters
- Know some letter sounds
- Begin to write letters with correct formation
- Recognize some printed words (such as their name)
- Identify the first sounds in words (orally)
- Blend sounds in simple words orally (up to 3 sounds)
- Listen carefully to understand stories, texts, and directions
- Participate in read-alouds and talk about the book
- Know how words are read in a book (from left to right and top to bottom)

But don’t stop there!

As your child continues beyond 1,500 minutes, they will learn to:

- Recognize all letters and know their most common sounds
- Write all letters with correct formation
- Begin to decode and spell short vowel words with two or three sounds
- Recognize some common words in print (the, and, is, etc.)
- Read their first decodable books
- Retell stories, including the beginning, middle, and end

Reach out to your Waterford Upstart Program Coach for tips on how to set up a solid learning routine.

Remember, slow and steady wins the race!