

# Why are minutes important?

**Children who consistently learn with Waterford Upstart for 15 minutes a day, five days a week, can achieve school readiness!**

Waterford Upstart is adaptive, providing targeted instruction to meet your child's unique learning needs. Short, frequent sessions work best to learn new skills. Establishing a daily learning routine is important to help your child progress through the software. Look at what your child can learn with Waterford Upstart!



## First Milestone: 1,500 minutes

- 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)

## Second Milestone: 2,000 minutes

- Recognize all letters and know their most common sounds
- Identify beginning, ending, and middle sounds in words (orally)
- Begin to decode words with short a word patterns (-at, -am, -ap, -ad, -an)
- Write all letters with the correct formation
- Recognize some common words in print (*the, and, is, etc.*)
- Read their first decodable books with short a word patterns (-at, -am, -ap, -ad, -an)
- Answer questions about stories read aloud

## Third Milestone: 2,500 minutes and beyond!

- Segment sounds in simple words with up to four sounds (orally)
- Recognize digraphs and their sounds (*ch, sh, th, and wh*)
- Decode and spell short vowel words with two or three sounds (*cat, dog, sit, etc.*)
- Recognize more common words in print (*this, for, are, etc.*)
- Write simple sentences
- Retell stories, including the beginning, middle, and end

## Remember, slow and steady wins the race!

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

[upstart.waterford.org](http://upstart.waterford.org) | 1-888-982-9898

### Math & Science



### Reading



Watch this video series to understand what your child will be learning and how you can support them.