

## Theme: Smart TV

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The Learning Triangle is TV that teaches + storybooks + activities—all related to one idea or skill. Parents and educators use the Learning Triangle to help children learn by encouraging them to interact with people and objects around them. Use the information below to create a Learning Triangle that will help your family use television wisely.

### TV that teaches

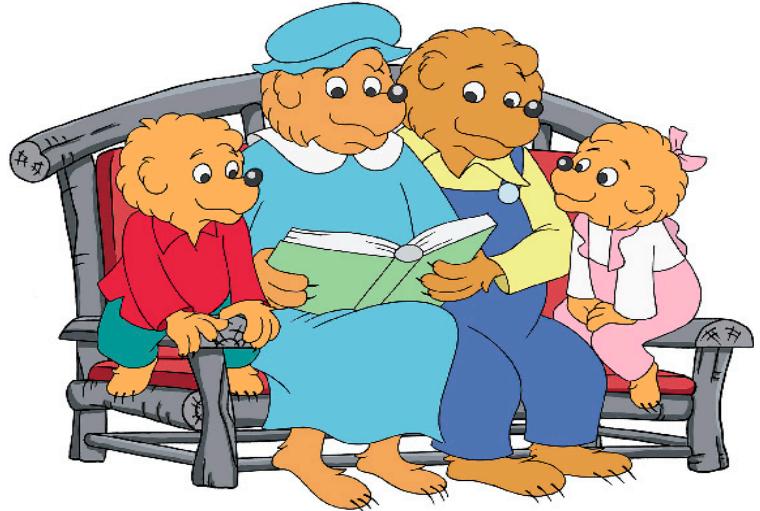
*Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*: #1468

—Superheroes

*Berenstain Bears*:—Too Much TV

*Arthur*: #307—Arthur Rides the Bandwagon

*Arthur*: #207—Arthur's Free Week



### Storybooks

*Fix It* by David McPhail

*Mole Music* by David McPhail

*The Best Way to Play* by Bill Cosby

*When the TV Broke* by Harriet Ziefert

*Great Aunt Martha* by Rebecca Jones

### Activities

1. **Be Choosy:** Select TV programs carefully. Ask yourself, “Does this program teach what I want my child to learn?”
2. **Watch Together:** Whenever possible, watch your child’s favorite programs together. Sing and dance with the music. Answer the characters’ questions. Talk about what you see and what you wonder. When you participate together, your child learns more and you both have fun.
3. **Talk About It:** Name the things you see on TV and make connections to your child’s life. This builds vocabulary and understanding.
4. **Turn It Off:** When a program is over, turn the TV off. Help your child find something to do away from the screen. In a balanced day, 1-2 hours of TV or computer time is plenty.
5. **Visit the Library:** When something on TV interests your child, find out more about it. Visit your local library and look for books on the same topic. Your children’s librarian can help you find books to match your child’s interests.

WILL has many resources that support the education of young children. For more information, contact our educational outreach coordinator at **217-333-1070** or e-mail [delaney1@will.uiuc.edu](mailto:delaney1@will.uiuc.edu).

