Letter Knowledge

- Same letter can look different
- Letters have names
- Letters relate to sounds

Enjoy and Interested in Books

Print Motivation

Research shows that children who are read to from an early age have a larger vocabulary and better language skills when they start school.

Your child learns by:
- Watching you
- Imitating you
- Hearing what you say
- Doing what you do over and over again.

Have fun doing activities to develop these pre-reading skills now. You are making it easier for your child to learn to read more easily in school.

Enjoy and Interested in Books

Help your child be ready to learn to read . . .
Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read or write.

What skills does my child need?

- Enjoying Books—Print Motivation
- Hearing Sounds—Phonological Awareness
- Knowing Words—Vocabulary
- Talk and Tell—Narrative Skills
- Signs and Using Books—Print Awareness
- Shapes and ABCs—Letter Knowledge

Letter knowledge starts with

- Seeing shapes
- Noticing what is alike and different

The Reading Connection
Children who can recognize at least 11 letters by the time they reach kindergarten are more successful at learning to read.

Print Motivation

The Reading Connection
Children who enjoy books and reading are more likely to stick with learning to read even if it’s hard.

- Read every day.
- Keep book reading time enjoyable.
- Short and fun is better than long and cranky.

Based on information from Every Child Ready to Read @ your library®, a program of Public Library Association and the Association for Library Service to Children, divisions of the American Library Association. www.earlylit.net
Narrative Skills
Talk
Tell

Vocabulary
big words

- Things
- Concepts
- Feelings
- Ideas

Print Awareness
Using books
Signs

Phonological Awareness
Sounds

- Sounds in words
- Sounds all around
Print has meaning

- Direction of print
- How books work

Encourage your child to:
- Play with books
- Write
- Scribble
- Draw

Narrative Skills

The Reading Connection helps children who read understand what they have read.

Encourage your child to:
- Talk!
- Describe things and events
- Tell and re-tell stories

Phonological Awareness—
hear and play with the smaller sounds in words

The Reading Connection
Helps children sound out words when they learn to read.

Most children who have trouble learning to read have trouble with phonological awareness.

Vocabulary

The Reading Connection
Easier to read words you already know
Helps children understand what they have read

Talk a lot
Children who are spoken to a lot have more words than children who are spoken to a little—five times more words by the age of two.

Read books
Books have three times more unusual words than we use when we talk with our children.

You and your child can:
- Sing songs
- Say rhymes
- Break words into parts
- Recognize rhymes
- Make rhymes

The Reading Connection
Children who are comfortable handling books can concentrate on reading.

turtle