



Family Literacy Activities

**** Read with your child every day****

Benefits of Daily Reading:

- * Special time together
- * Pleasure and enjoyment
- * Models "literacy behaviors"
- * Develops pre-reading concepts:
 - concepts of print
 - sense of story
 - directionality
- * Encourages literacy skills: predictions
- * Builds new knowledge
- * Increases vocabulary development
- * Supports the importance of learning
- * Indicates later school success

How Families Can Help:

* Point out print in everyday life - the back of the cereal box, toys, fast food restaurants, traffic signals. This helps children learn that print is all around them.

* Sing songs, say little poems or Mother Goose rhymes, and play rhyming word games with your child. Rhyming will become important as children learn to read.

* Tell stories to your child.

* Read aloud to your child. Point to the words on the page. Move your fingers from left to right as you read.

* Ask older children to read to younger children.

* Ask your child to read to you (or pretend to read to you). Make this reading fun. Don't worry if your child does not read all the words right. Make sure your child knows that you think he/she is a good reader.

* Go to the library together. Check out books together. The librarian can help you find good books for your child.

* Have books, magazines, and newspapers around the house. Let your child see that you like to read.

* Ask your child to write. Ask your child to read the writing to you. Praise him/her for being such a good writer. Don't worry about spelling.

What Kind of Books to Look for (ages 4-6)

- * Stories that rhyme
- * Stories that repeat sentences or words
- * Adventure of silly stories
- * Books about giants, monsters, princesses, dinosaurs, or animals
- * Books with poems