

Things You Can Do To Help Your Child with Early Literacy.



- model writing to your child
- Read with children
- Talking about books with children
- Join the local library
- Refer to words and picture, differentiating between the two.
- Write messages, shopping lists and cards in front of children.
- Write messages for, and read them to children
- Encourage children to "have a go" at writing.
- Have a display space for writing efforts.
- Focus on the message children have written, not the spelling
- Talk about letter names.
- Talk about print around us.
- Help children recognise their names, and other common signs when they are written.
- Read well-known nursery rhymes, and sometimes leave out the last words of each line for children to fill in.
- Ask what might happen in stories being read.
- Talk about letter names, sounding out and ask "does that look right?"
- Occasionally write messages for children while they watch, talking about the writing process.
- Use a family message board.
- Play games using letters and sounds.
- Point out similarities in the way words look or sound.
- Accept children's writing without criticism.
- Support children's spelling attempts and willingness to "have a go".
- Buy books as presents
- Talk about why you like some books.
- Take an active interest in the television your child views, and discuss their viewing.
- Take delight in children's use of new words and encourage them to use those words in conversation.
- Explain new words.
- Play games such as Scrabble and Boggle that develop vocabulary and spelling.
- Ask children to underline words they are not sure of.
- Model and encourage children to reread what they have written to check for missing words, sense and punctuation.
- Model the use of dictionaries as a strategy.
- Model the use of the "which looks right?" strategy.
- Read your child's writing when they bring it home!