

NOVEMBER

"The more that you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

— Dr. Seuss



Reading, Writing, Listening & Speaking

Important literacy skills are developed during the preschool years through children's experiences with familiar adults in familiar settings.

- Talk, talk and talk some more with your children describing surroundings, behaviors and objects.
- Say nursery rhymes together. Children who have been exposed to rhymes have greater success learning to read and understanding sounds.
- Look at books or read with your child at least 20 minutes every day.
- Before reading the words in a book, look at and talk about the pictures or illustrations. "This is a very colorful picture. There are bright green trees. What else do you see?" Ask your child to predict what the story might be about, based on the cover pictures.
- While reading a book together, connect the book to your child's personal experiences. "This book is about trains. We see trains when we walk to town. What do you remember about the trains we see?"
- After reading a book, act out the story, sing a song or draw pictures related to the story.
- Model good reading habits by reading magazines, books and other things for your own enjoyment!
- Give your child crayons, pencils and paper to practice writing, creating books or letters.
- Set limits on your child's TV/video/computer use.



Me Book

Help your child cut out pictures of his/her favorite foods from magazines and newspaper flyers. Or ask, "draw me

pictures of what you like to eat or drink." Label the pictures and label the page, "MyFavoriteFoods." Date it and save!

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Internet Resources

www.rti.org
www.dhs.org/parents/
The PA Early Learning Keys to Quality (PA & Regional Keys)
www.pakeys.org
The PA Early Learning Keys to Quality, sponsored by the PA Departments of Education and Human Services, Office of Child Development and Early Learning, is a quality improvement system in which all early learning programs and professionals are encouraged and supported to improve child outcomes.



A Week of Activities!

 Finger paint with your child. (See recipes on page 30) Be creative! Use your hands or your feet to paint!

 Take a walk together to the playground. Before playing, show your child how to play safely on each piece of equipment.

 Use objects to make patterns with your child. Lay out spoon, spoon, cup and ask your child to make the same pattern. Or try, black sock, white sock, black sock and see if your child can tell you what's next.

 Practice dressing skills like zipping, buttoning and tying. Let your child pick his own clothes from choices. "Would you like to wear the red or the blue shirt today?" (Choosing clothes may help a child want to practice these skills).



A Week of Activities!

 Talk about the sequence of events in your daily activities (meal time, bath time, bed time). See if your child can tell you which one comes first during the day. Which one comes last?

 Use stuffed animals or dolls to retell a story you've read. Use a sock to make a puppet for story telling.

 Take a walk outside. Investigate trees, leaves and other fall objects. Collect some in a bag and take home to use for other activities.

 Encourage your child to "read" familiar names on products, buildings and businesses. Talk about them. "There's the truck that says US Mail."



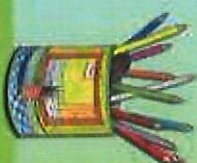
A Week of Activities!

 Write your child's name on a piece of paper. Have your child trace over it with his/her fingers. Remember to capitalize only the first letter.

 Talk to your child about the things you will do today, the things you did yesterday and what you might do tomorrow.

 Let your child scribble a design with crayons, markers or pencils. Have him/her fill in the empty spaces in the design with different colors or patterns.

 Look through magazines to find people's faces. Talk about the expressions and emotions showing on their faces. "That person is frowning. He is probably sad."



A Week of Activities!

 During bath time use different sized plastic cups and containers to measure water. Talk about which cup holds more or less? Find out how many small cups are needed to fill a big cup.

 Explore items in your house. Which ones are hard? Soft? Heavy? Light?

 Ask your child to draw a picture and tell you a story about it. Write down the child's words at the bottom of the picture.

 Play "Guess that Taste" game. Put different foods on different plates (peanut butter, lemon, cheese, pretzel). Cover your child's eyes. Help him/her select food to taste and ask, "which food do you think it is?"



Check these out!

I Stink by Katie and Jim McMullan
The Relatives Game by Cynthia Rylant
Neighborhood Mother Goose by Nina Crews
Wild About Books by Judy Sierra
Max Found Two Sticks by Brian Pinkney
Megatooth by Patrick O'Brien



 Approaches to Learning Through Play
 Creative Thinking and Expression
 Language and Literacy Development
 Mathematical Thinking and Expression
 Social and Emotional Development
 Health, Wellness and Physical Development
 Scientific Thinking and Technology
 Social Studies Thinking