

| Storytime Piece | 6 by 6 Skill | Early Literacy Skill | Communication to Parent/Caregiver |
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| Book | Interactive Reading | Dialogic Reading | Point to the illustration on a book's cover and ask your child what s/he thinks the book is about. |
| Book | Interactive Reading | Dialogic Reading | With predictable books, like <i>The Little Red Hen</i> , stop before the end of a predictable line and let your child finish the sentence. |
| Book | Interactive Reading | Dialogic Reading | Make observations and involve your child: "The hen is taking the wheat to the mill. What do you think will happen there?" |
| Book | Interactive Reading | Dialogic Reading | Ask open-ended questions: "What do you think is going to happen next?" "What would you do if that happened to you?" "How would you feel?" "Why do you think that happened?" |
| Book | Interactive Reading | Dialogic Reading | Expand on what your child says by repeating or paraphrasing, adding details, and using new words. |
| Book | Look for Letters Everywhere | Letter Knowledge | Reading alphabet books with a story is one way to expose children to letters. Some alphabet books are quite complex, so ask a Librarian to help you choose some from our Alphabet and Counting section. |
| Book | Look for Letters Everywhere | Letter Knowledge | Alphabet books that pair upper and lower case letters help children understand how the two go together. |
| Mixed Up Alphabet Books | Look for Letters Everywhere | Letter Knowledge | Alphabet books with the letters mixed up are good for four and five year olds who already know the "Alphabet Song." While you're reading a mixed up alphabet book, ask your child where the letter is supposed to go. Putting the letters of the alphabet in order helps your child recognize what each letter looks like and think about the letters as individual units. |
| Nametags | Look for Letters Everywhere | Letter Knowledge | The most important word to a child is his/her name! It is a good place to begin when learning sounds and letters. You can spell it out in sand, make letters with play-dough, or use plastic magnetic letters on the refrigerator. |
| Storytime about Picnics Opener | Look for Letters Everywhere | Letter Knowledge | You can hold up a foam letter "P" and say that picnic starts with "P". Let's fill up a picnic basket with different things. What shall we put in? Paper plates, peanut butter sandwiches, pickles, yum, yum. Paper and plates start with "P"! So do peanut butter and pickles. What else shall we take on the picnic? See how you can incorporate knowing letters into whatever you might be talking about. |
| Storytime Opener w/ Letter N "Let's count noses, all together. We have 27 nice noses today! [Holds up foam letter "N"] Here's an "en" for all those noses!" | Look for Letters Everywhere | Letter Knowledge | You can name the letters and their sounds based on things you are doing throughout the day. Even using signs, like STOP signs, when you are driving or walking around helps children learn letters. |
| Train Book | Look for Letters Everywhere | Letter Knowledge | Hold up a foam letter of "T" and/or "t". This is the letter T for train. Showing children letters based on subjects they like follows the child's interest. They are more likely to remember the letter than if you drill them. |

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| Book | Look for Letters Everywhere | Letter Knowledge | Children become aware that printed letters stand for spoken words as they see print used in their daily lives. They develop a knowledge of the purpose and meaning of reading through writing. |
| Book | Look for Letters Everywhere | Letter Knowledge | Children need to understand that words are made up of letters and that letters represent the specific sounds they hear in words. Books with large, clear print are useful in demonstrating this. |
| Book | Tell Stories about Everything | Narrative Skills | Read the book together. Go back one or two pages and model "Interactive or Dialogic Reading." There are many ways to read a book. |
| Book | Tell Stories about Everything | Narrative Skills | The ability to describe things and events is part of narrative skills, and is critical in learning to read. When reading, ask your child open-ended questions that can't be answered with a simple "yes" or "no" response. This will give her the opportunity to describe events in her own words. |
| Book | Tell Stories about Everything | Narrative Skills | Reading a book through helps children understand the whole story and keeps the story line. Talking about the pictures and taking the child's lead increases your child's vocabulary and narrative skills. Try to ask questions that cannot be answered with Yes or No. If you'd like more information on this way of reading with your child talk with me after the storytime. |
| Book | Tell Stories about Everything | Narrative Skills | This is a wonderful book about colors. Ask your child how s/he thinks colors might have come to the world. |
| Book and Flannel Board retelling | Tell Stories about Everything | Narrative Skills | Once children are familiar with a story, let them tell you what happens. This improves their narrative skills, or the ability to relate events. Developing this early literacy skill helps later with reading comprehension. |
| Storytime about Picnics Opener | Tell Stories about Everything | Narrative Skills | Let children tell you what a picnic is or what happened when they went on a picnic. This helps to develop their narrative skills, the ability to retell events. This is an early literacy skill that was hard for many kindergartners. |
| Train Book | Tell Stories about Everything | Narrative Skills | Let children talk about the pictures in the book. They may tell you about a time they saw a train, or even went on one. Taking time to listen and to add to what they say helps them develop their narrative skills which helps later with understanding what they read. |
| Book | Tell Stories about Everything | Narrative Skills | Dramatic play helps develop narrative skills as children make up a story about what they're doing. This helps them understand that stories happen in an order: first, next, last. |
| Book | Tell Stories about Everything | Narrative Skills | Reading with children gives them an understanding of how stories are organized--that they have a beginning, middle, and end. |
| Book | Tell Stories about Everything | Narrative Skills | Reading with children encourages imaginative thinking and creative problem solving. |
| Rhyme | Take Time to Rhyme, Sing and Play Word Games | Phonological Awareness | Rhyming is one way that children learn to hear that words are made up of smaller parts. This helps them when they later try to sound out words to read. |

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| Rhyme | Take Time to Rhyme, Sing and Play Word Games | Phonological Awareness | You can play these rhyming games while you are walking or are waiting in line or driving in the car. These games are a fun way of helping children understand that words are made up of parts which helps children in sounding out words. |
| Song | Take Time to Rhyme, Sing and Play Word Games | Phonological Awareness | Aside from being fun, singing songs with your children helps them hear words being broken up into smaller sounds. Later this skill helps with reading. |
| Song | Take Time to Rhyme, Sing and Play Word Games | Phonological Awareness | Songs help children hear words broken down into syllables because usually there is a different note for each syllable. Subconsciously children are learning to break words down into parts. This skill helps them with reading. |
| Song | Take Time to Rhyme, Sing and Play Word Games | Phonological Awareness | Singing is fun! Don't worry if you don't have perfect pitch! In songs, each syllable has a different note. Without really thinking about it, children are hearing words being broken down into parts. This helps them when they have to sound out words. |
| Song or Rhyme | Take Time to Rhyme, Sing and Play Word Games | Phonological Awareness | Even while you are diapering your baby you can sing this song. Singing songs helps children hear that words are broken down into smaller parts. |
| Book | Take Time to Rhyme, Sing and Play Word Games | Phonological Awareness | Songs help children develop listening skills and pay attention to the rhythms and rhymes of spoken language. |
| Book | Take Time to Rhyme, Sing and Play Word Games | Phonological Awareness | Most songs have a different note for each syllable. This helps children break down words so they hear individual sounds. |
| Song | Take Time to Rhyme, Sing and Play Word Games | Phonological Awareness | Singing also slows down language so children can hear different parts of words and notice how they are alike and different. |
| Song | Take Time to Rhyme, Sing and Play Word Games | Phonological Awareness | Clapping along to rhythms helps children hear the syllables in words, and it improves motor skills. |
| Song | Take Time to Rhyme, Sing and Play Word Games | Phonological Awareness | Singing helps children learn new words and adds to their general knowledge. |
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