

The five early literacy practices (you'll find info on the handout and in the CLSP manual)

Talk

Sing

Read

Write

Play

Storytelling with young children—what works

- Age 0-2: Children enjoy peekaboo, patty cake, nursery rhymes, fingerplays. Use lots of rhyme and rhythm.
- Age 2-3: Still use fingerplays, rhyme and rhythm, lots of repetition. Simple, simple stories, 5 minutes or less. When they're done listening, they're done.
- Age 4-5: Starting to differentiate from others, to understand that others have feelings. Continue with repetition, rhyme, rhythm. Go a little longer. Silliness works well with these kids. Stories about families.
- Age 6-7: More aware of others, of emotions, getting an idea of morality. Better at predicting where the story goes.

Books

Old favorites like Brown bear, brown bear, what do you see? or Harold and the purple crayon or Pete the cat: I love my white shoes or new ones like

10 Cats or Miss Troublemaker makes a mess

A few tips for storytime

- Always have more materials ready than you need.
- Read and reread the books before you use them.
 - It's okay to abridge a story.
- Don't be afraid to shorten or ditch a story if it isn't working.
 - Mix in fingerplays, songs, puppets and silliness.
- Incorporate movement—cross the midline of the body.
 - If you have a small group, sit rather than stand.

Crafts
Just a few ideas

Paper bag hats
Stained glass
Painting
Prints and stamps
Self-portraits
Playdough

When you create positive experiences for children at the library, those children will grow up to be taxpayers with fond memories of the library. They (and their parents) are more likely to support the library and its mission in the future.

For more info, check out my website, https://www.priscillahowe.com/ To book performances or workshops, email priscilla@priscillahowe.com or call 785-331-6181.

