



Family Engagement in Early Literacy

Family Involvement

When families actively participate in their child's early literacy journey, they're helping build a strong foundation for lifelong learning. Children develop essential language and literacy skills through everyday interactions, routines, and conversations with family members.

Reinforces Learning: Engaging in literacy activities at home strengthens skills children are building in school.

Boosts Confidence: When children see their family members excited about reading and learning, it builds their confidence and enthusiasm for reading.

Creates Lasting Bonds: Sharing books and stories as a family fosters closeness and a positive attitude toward learning.

Strategies for Supporting Literacy at Home

Incorporating literacy into everyday family life doesn't require special skills or materials—small, consistent actions can have a big impact:

Create a Reading Routine: Set aside time each day for family reading, even if it's just 10-15 minutes. Bedtime or after meals can be ideal times.

Visit Libraries Together: Take advantage of free library resources. Libraries offer a variety of books, story hours, and family programs that make reading fun and accessible.

Talk About Everyday Experiences: Describe what you're doing, ask questions, and encourage your child to share their thoughts to build vocabulary and conversation skills.

Tips

Supporting literacy at home can be simple and enjoyable for the whole family:

Read in Native Languages: Reading in your family's native language or dialect fosters literacy and connects children to their cultural heritage.

Ask Open-Ended Questions: During conversations, ask questions like "What do you think will happen next?" to encourage critical thinking.

Use Library Resources: Libraries offer many free resources, from children's programs to book recommendations, making literacy accessible for all.

Family engagement in literacy builds lifelong skills and creates meaningful family memories. Enjoy the journey of learning together!

Checklist

- **Read Together:** Share stories in any language, encouraging a love of books.
- **Visit the Library:** Explore new books, and let children choose their favorites.
- **Label Around the House:** Label common items (e.g., "door," "sink") to introduce print in a natural way.
- **Sing Songs and Rhymes:** Songs introduce rhythm, rhyme, and fun language patterns.
- **Tell Stories:** Share family stories, which build listening and comprehension skills.

Learn More!

