

EARLY LITERACY SKILLS

Let's focus on the "Five Practices" of the Every Child Ready to Read program. These researched based practices can help young children develop essential literacy skills that will help them get ready to read.



READ

- Reading together is the single most important way you can prepare your child and get them excited to read.
- Reading increases vocabulary and general knowledge.
- Ask questions and share thoughts about books to make reading interactive.



TALK

- Talking in any language increases vocabulary and general knowledge.
- Talk to your child during daily routines.
- Practice asking your child questions and engaging conversation from them from the time they are born.



SING

- Singing slows language down to make it easier for children to identify the smaller sounds in words.
- Singing is a fun way to explore new sounds.
- Song lyrics and nursery rhymes introduce new vocabulary and rhythm of language.



WRITE

- Writing requires fine and gross motor skills (able to do little things with hands and big things with your body).
- Writing skills start with any movement that involves the hands--scribble, draw, dance, clap, and more.
- Keep crayons or markers available.



PLAY

- Playing teaches children to think symbolically, helping them to learn that written words stand for real things.
- Playing teaches narrative skills to understand stories.
- Children learn through play. The more your child engages in play, the more knowledge they will have.

BABY BUBBLE POP!

Summer reading program for babies!

This is a fun way you can explore ideas and activities with your baby that targets early literacy skills (skills needed for learning to read when they are older).

They can be done in any order. "Pop" the bubbles by trying one practice every day.

 **Read**  **Talk**  **Sing**  **Write**  **Play**

Play
"peek-a-boo"
with a toy and
see if your baby
can find it

Read a book
with flaps or
slides

Let your baby
pick up and eat
cheerios or
other small
cereal

Add a song to
your diaper
changing
routine

Play outside in
the grass with
your baby

With baby on
their back, hold
objects above
them to grab

Sing a song to
your baby
during their
next bath time

Pause in the
middle of a
book-talk about
what might
happen next

Read a book
about bedtime
before bed or
naptime

Give your baby
different sized
objects to
grasp

Pick an activity
and narrate it
for your baby

Give your baby
two spoons to
hit together

Blow bubbles
for your baby
to track with
their eyes

Use toy phones
to have a
conversation
with your baby

Listen to some
"oldies" with
your baby and
have a dance
party!

Sing a lullaby
from your
childhood to
your baby

Make up short
stories to tell
your baby-make
them the main
character

Add music to
your morning
routine

Let your baby
turn the pages
of a board
book while
reading

Read a book
with rhyming
words

Read a
nonfiction
board book
together

Give your baby
an empty box
and a few
items that will
fit inside

Come to **Book
Babies** at MPL
Mondays at
11:30

Roll a ball with
your baby

Go on a walk
with your baby
and talk about
the sounds you
hear