

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

Roseville Public Library
Early Literacy Tips



Early literacy tip

Are you tired of reading the same book again and again? You don't have to read the text every time! Talk to your child about what you see in the pictures, or make up a story of your own. As your child develops language skills, they can practice retelling the story using the pictures as cues.



Early literacy tip

Are you planning to do a new activity with your child, like going to a farmer's market or visiting the zoo?

Read a book about it before you go! This allows children to form their own concepts and construct preliminary ideas about what a place is like.



Early literacy tip

Writing activities help children learn letter names and sounds.

Let your child help you write a grocery list or ask your child to draw a picture of everything in their room. Then help your child write the name of each object in the room.



Early literacy tip

Ask questions that encourage your child to notice, compare, and put things together. For example: "Have you seen an animal that looks like this before?"



Early literacy tip

If you find a book based on song lyrics (like 'Wheels on the Bus' or 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star') try singing it! Or simply incorporate your own favorite childhood songs into storytime.



Early literacy tip

Identify shapes around you and talk about them with your child. As they gain recognition skills, challenge them to daily shape scavenger hunts: "Can you find 10 circles around the house?" Once they're confident with basic shapes, try it with letters!



Early literacy tip

Ask your children open-ended questions (ones that can't be answered with yes or no) so that they have the opportunity to practice their language skills. Either/or questions are good for littles to let them practice their pronunciation. Ex: Would you like to wear a blue shirt or green shirt today? What book would you like to read before bed?



Early literacy tip

Play with your child!
You can act out scenes from books you've read or pretend to be your child's favorite character. "We're Going On A Bear Hunt" is a great example of a book that encourages imaginative play with kids.



Early literacy tip

Read rhyming books with your child and once they start to grasp the concept, encourage them to guess the last word of the rhyme.

