BUILDING LITERACY SKILLS AT HOME

TODDLER (AGES 2-3)

It is never too early (or late) to start doing literacy activities with your child. Strong literacy skills are essential for development and provide a foundation for school and work performance, social skills, and solving problems in all subject areas. Just a few minutes spent each day on simple literacy activities can add up to a lifelong love of reading and learning! These literacy-based activities are great for your toddler.

READING

READ EVERY DAY!

Getting into the habit of reading every day for at least a few minutes is helpful for your child's development.

THINK ALOUD AS YOU READ.

Point out what you see in the pictures. Read with expression so your child can see and hear joy for reading.

ASK QUESTIONS.

Use the 5W strategy - Who, What, When, Where, Why? If you don't know the answer, work together to look it up and learn.

WRITING, DRAWING, & CREATING

EXPLORE FEELINGS.

Creativity and ideas can be expressed by drawing pictures.

BE CREATIVE.

Paper, crayons, markers, glue, and even household items like noodles, boxes, and sponges can be great tools for creativity.

PAINT WITH WATER.

Get a clean paintbrush and small bucket of plain water. Go outside and let your child paint the walls, sidewalk, or fence.

TELL STORIES WITH PROPS.

Puppets, socks, and household items can all be great props for story-telling.

SPEAKING & LISTENING

BUILD VOCABULARY.

Talk with your child about everything. Describe the world around them in real (adult) terms.

EXPLORE RHYMES AND SONGS.

These can expose new words and develop speaking skills.

USE SIGN LANGUAGE.

Learn and use signs for words your child may need to communicate (more, drink, go etc.).

TALK THROUGH THE DAY.

Encourage your child to speak by asking lots of questions and narrating experiences. :Say things like"We're getting in the car now to go to the grocery store! I'm turning the car on, and now we're driving." "Do you know the name of this fruit? It's a banana."