

LITERACY CORNER TIDBITS

Monthly Literacy Tips from the Early Learning Professionals at ELCIRMO

Three Tips for reading-a-loud to your preschooler.



#1. Your primary instructional goal for reading-a-loud to a preschooler should be to support language acquisition.

Research shows that consistent and meaningful “back and forth exchanges” about the content you are reading to your child promotes future success in school readiness.

So, avoid rote learning strategies that only requires the memorization of facts. Instead, explore new ways to sustain creative and imaginative discussions on topics your child can relate to as a preschooler.

Also, do note that it is not developmentally appropriate for preschoolers to be taught reading. Young children should be encouraged instead to think through asking questions, speaking, laughing, singing, and playfully grappling with the concepts introduced in each story book you share together.

#2. Prepare the books or materials you plan to read to your child in advance.

Strive to reduce any amount of delay or un-necessary interruption between the transition and roll out of one activity to another, particularly when reading.

Have the books or other resources you plan to use laid out ahead of time. This way you can foresee any potential pitfall that can arise and disrupt an otherwise productive learning outcome with your child. Like key pages of a book being missing or having words and concepts that need explanation not adequately defined in a manner your child can use to fully appreciate the story being read.



And finally...

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Tips for reading-a-loud to your preschooler continued...



#3. Decide on the subjects or concepts you want to introduce or review with your child.

Use any of the preschool lesson planning or curricula resources available to you from the trusted learning platforms currently available to you. And, decide if the book you are reading to your child builds on prior knowledge or new ideas and concepts you want to introduce.

For example, read each book to yourself first. Then, determine if the book's focus on farm animals, letters, numbers, colors, or shapes is the area of learning you want to focus on for that day's activity. From here, use this opportunity to be intentional about having other activities throughout the day of learning you share with your child reinforce or re-imagine those same ideas.

Most of all, be confident... because YOU are your child's first and most influential reading teacher. And, your earnest approach and sincerest ideas about learning from home will make an indelible impression on your child's mind about learning in general – particularly, after your child returns to a formal educational setting.

So, be organized and be intentional in consistently keeping your child's interest in discovering from home the world that await them through read-a-louds. And know, once again, that we are here for you!

Look for the monthly Literacy Tidbit in the ELCIRMO Newsletter and on our website. [Click here for more.](#)

