



Wings

A Weekly Newsletter for Families

January: Week 2
Early Literacy

“The more that you READ, the more things you will KNOW. The more that you LEARN, the more places you will GO!”
- Dr. Seuss



How do you raise a reader?

Learning to read is a very complex skill and is one of the most complex things that we ask children to do. And for many, it doesn't come easily. But there are many things you can do to help them and share the joy of reading while strengthening your child's literacy skills.

Read from day one - Infants respond positively to the warmth of a lap and the soothing sound of a book being read aloud.

Reread their favorite book - Children love to hear their favorite stories read to them over and over again. Rereading provides an opportunity to hear or see something that may have been missed the first time.

Expand their experiences with visits to the library - Public libraries are great resources for books, story times and much more. They also offer great opportunities for socialization.

Don't stop talking - No matter the child's age, narrate what you're doing, talk in full sentences and sprinkle your conversations with interesting words.

Speak up if something doesn't feel right - Parents are often the first ones to recognize a problem. If you have concerns about your child's development, speak with your child's teacher and your pediatrician. It's never too early to check in with an expert.

•• INFANT Inspiration

Encourage your baby's coos, growls and gurgles. They are your baby's way of communicating with you, and are important first steps toward speech. Encourage attempts to mimic you. The more your baby practices making sounds, the clearer they will become. Go ahead and moo, woof and honk!

•• PRESCHOOL Power

Every day is an adventure when you're a toddler. Toddlers need to move, so don't worry if they don't sit quietly while you read. They may be moving around, but they are listening. Choose books about everyday experiences and feelings. Your toddler will identify with the characters as they dress, eat, visit, nap and play.



•• TODDLER Tales

To develop confident readers remember to:

- Read together every day
- Give everything a name
- Read with fun in your voice
- Discuss what's happening in the book
- Point out words everywhere
- Let them read the story to you

Go ahead - read your child's favorite book for the 100th time!

