

LITERACY FOR INFANTS



Early language and literacy skills are learned best through everyday moments with your child—reading books, talking, laughing and playing together.

READ TOGETHER

Read books that have rhyme, rhythm, or repetition (such as nursery rhymes). It is the sound of the language which is especially important to infants who cannot yet focus on pictures very well. *1.2 I.1 Range of Reading*



PHOTO BOOK

Glue photos of your baby and the important people in her life onto sturdy 4x6 index cards. Punch a hole in the left corner of each card and tie them together with yarn. Your baby will love seeing pictures of the people she loves and hearing you talk about them. *1.2 I.B Text Analysis*



PRINT AWARENESS

Let your baby “read” her own way. Your baby may only sit still for a few pages, turn the pages quickly or only want to look at one picture and then be done. Follow your baby’s lead to make reading time a positive experience.



1.1 I.B Print Concepts

FINGER PLAYS

Sing some “finger play” songs. These are songs that have hand movements to go with them. “Finger plays” help children develop muscle strength and coordination in their fingers, which helps them learn to write and draw later on. *1.5 I.A Speaking and Listening*



PENNSYLVANIA LEARNING STANDARDS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD: PRE-KINDERGARTEN

The Department of Education and the Office of Child Development and Early Learning use a Standards Aligned System. The Pennsylvania's Learning Standards for Early Childhood are designed to support learning. The key areas explored in these activities are Foundational Skills, Reading Informational Text and Speaking and Listening.

1.1 LANGUAGE AND LITERACY DEVELOPMENT — Foundational Skills: Print Concepts

Big Idea: Emerging reading involves the use of pictures, symbols to gain information and derive meaning.

- 1.1 I.B Demonstrate interest in books that have color, pattern and contrast.

1.2 READING INFORMATIONAL TEXT

Big Idea: Effective readers use appropriate strategies to construct meaning. Critical thinkers actively and skillfully interpret, analyze, evaluate and synthesize information. An expanded vocabulary enhances one's ability to express ideas and information.

- 1.2 I.B Attend to a picture in a text when reading with an adult. Point to familiar objects when pictured within a text.
- 1.2 I.L Engage in reading activities.

1.5 SPEAKING AND LISTENING

Big Idea: Active listeners make meaning from what they hear by questioning, responding and evaluating. Effective speakers prepare and communicate messages to address the audience and purpose.

- 1.5 I.A Use sounds and gestures as a form of reciprocal communication.