

Early Literacy Tips: PLAY

A key component of early literacy storytimes is sharing information with parents and caregivers through early literacy reminders.

Using reminders that flow naturally into what is already happening in storytime can help make giving reminders easier and more fluid.

Play is such an important part of early literacy and is how children learn about their world. Studies have shown that children really benefit from time to play on their own and the ability to use their imaginations.

Use everyday things to make learning fun!

Tissue boxes and paper towel rolls make great building materials. Go outside and explore. The more you see and do together, the more your child learns.

When we play Peek-a-Boo with our babies, they are making important brain connections. Research has shown that children learn best when they feel safe, happy and loved.

Make a dress up trunk with lightly used clothes for dramatic play. Dramatic play and pretend play help to build narrative skills along with encouraging social and emotional development.

Jumping the ABCs is a great way to hear all the letters of the alphabet. One jump for every letter of the alphabet, especially L-M-N-O-P because they get smushed together. Young children need to move to learn!

When we play with bubbles, it's not only fun, our children are practicing hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills. That prepares them to be good readers and writers because those same skills are used to track words on a page or hold a pencil.

