



Encouraging Literacy at Home

Melissa Simpson
msimpson@tccrn.org
765-742-7105

Family Engagement Specialists



Melissa Simpson



Tanika Phinisee

- High quality child care referrals
- Access to community resources
- Family workshops and other educational opportunities
- Education and resources about quality child care, licensing requirements, and characteristics of quality care
- Information and support related to effective kindergarten transition and readiness

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Did you know?

- “That children who have home experiences with books are more likely to have larger vocabularies and better understanding of stories than children who have few home book experiences” (McGee & Richgels, 2012).
- “It has been known from research results for decades that children whose parents regularly tell them tales and stories exceed their peers who are lacking this experience by approximately 1.5 years in development” (Nyitrai & Podraczky, 2016).

Video



What you can do at home

- Develop family reading routines and rituals
- Read books that follow your child's interests
- Try books that reflect your daily experiences
- Let your child select books
- Encourage storytelling
- Have fun while reading
- Change your setting



Family Time with Books

- When you look at a book with your child, you are spending special time together. Here are some ideas to make it even more interesting and fun:
 - **Talk about the book**
 - You and your child can make up your own stories to go with the pictures
 - **Point to the words as you read them**
 - Connect the written words with the words you say
 - **Read with expression**
 - Have fun! Make up voices for the different characters
 - **Follow your child's lead**
 - Read the book again? Choose another book? Finished reading? Let your child decide.
 - **Comment on interesting pictures**
 - When your child points to a picture, make a comment. "You see the bear's head? His head is peeking out from behind the tree."

Ask Questions

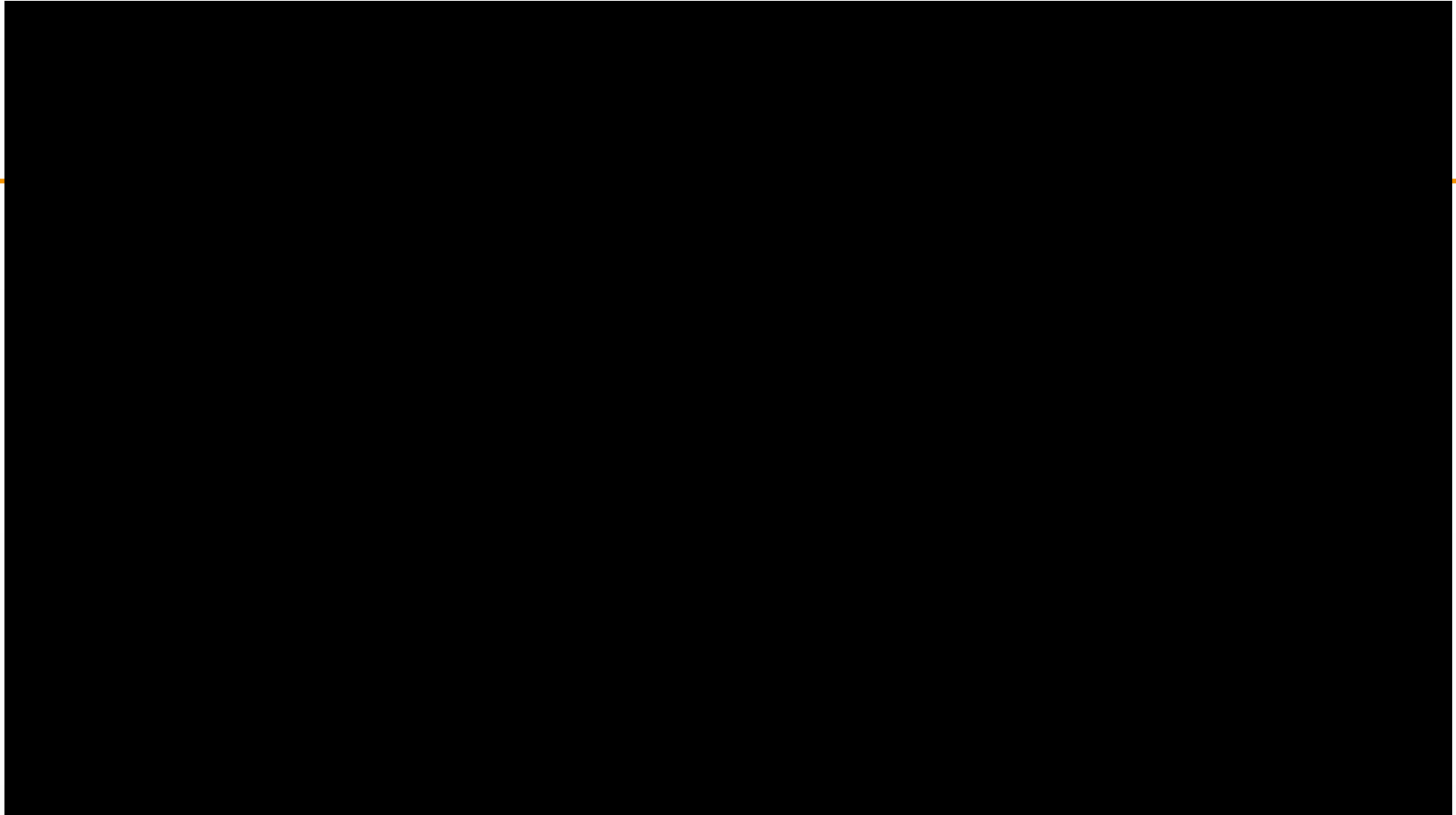
- Questions that lead to thinking
 - Ask your child to:
 - **Describe:** “What do you see?” “What do you hear?”
 - **Explain:** “Why do you think that?”
 - **Connect:** “Has something like that ever happened to you?”
 - **Predict:** “What do you think will happen next?”

Add Words to Teach

- Try these ideas to help your child learn new words and share more complete thoughts. Repeat what your child says, and add a little MORE.
 - Add words that describe:
 - Child: I saw Ana's dog. Adult: Oh, that fluffy little dog?
 - Add words that name:
 - Child: I like that. Adult: That is a shiny whistle!
 - Add more information:
 - Child: Yay! David is coming! Adult: Uncle David is going to visit in August and we'll go to the beach.

How to Introduce Babies and Toddlers to Books

- A few minutes at a time is OK, it's ok if you don't finish the story
- Talk or sing about the pictures
- Let them turn the pages
- Show them the cover page
- Show them the words
- Make the story come alive
- Make it personal
- Ask questions and let them ask questions
- Let them tell the story
- Make books a part of your daily routine



Activities that Foster Literacy Development

- Reading to the children daily
- Telling stories
- Creating shopping lists
- Playdough with letters
- Post Office
- Letter sensory bin
- Creating letters with blocks
- Story stones
- Typewriter or keyboard



Other Materials that Support Literacy

- Flannel Boards
- Puppets
- Magnetic boards and magnetic letters
- Blocks
- Headphones with books on CD
- CD players
- Computers



What you should see at child care

- Print, reading, and writing materials are available
 - Print materials can include signs, labels, posters, flyers, and alphabet toys
 - Reading materials can include books, magazines, pamphlets, recipes, catalogs, etc.
 - Writing materials can include paper, envelopes, chalkboards, easels, stamps, markers, pencils, crayons, chalk, paint brushes, etc.
- Opportunities for literacy development are available in the classroom centers
- Adults model the use or purpose of print, reading, and writing
- The literacy materials are interesting and motivate the children to participate

Young Children

- Read books and nursery rhymes aloud together
- Talk daily about home and community life
- Sing, draw, and tell stories

Older Children

- Play word games
- Discuss word meanings
- Point out interesting or unfamiliar words
- Ask questions before, during, and after reading

Adolescents

- Talk about learning and connect to school
- Offer a literacy rich environment
- Model reading and writing

Supporting Your Child's Literacy Development at Home

Take part in literacy experiences at home. Taking part can develop your child's reading ability, comprehension, and language skills. It could also improve your child's interest in reading, attitude towards reading, and focus.



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THE FIRE OF LITERACY
IS CREATED BY THE
SPARKS BETWEEN A
CHILD, A BOOK, AND
THE PERSON READING.

- MEM FOX

Questions?

Resources

- What to expect in preschool: literacy. Retrieved from <https://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/what-to-expect-at-preschool-literacy/>
- *Literacy's beginnings: Supporting young readers and writers*
- Fall in Love with Reading: Ten Simple Things you Can Do at Home. Retrieved from <https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/fall-love-reading>
- Improving parent competences in promoting literacy development-some results of a pilot study.
- Zero to Three: <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/304-how-to-introduce-toddlers-and-babies-to-books>