The ABC's

of Early Literacy By Room 401



At the age of 2, a kid's brain is as active as an adult's. Between 3 and 10 a kid's brain is two times as active as an adult's. That's why literacy practice is so important! Frontallappen



B

By age five, the average child from a low-income family only recognizes 9 letters of the alphabet, compared to 22 letters for a child from a middle-class family.



Children who read 100,000 words a year are in the top 2% of achievement in school.



During everyday loving interactions, like sharing books, telling stories, singing songs, and talking to one another, children develop language and literacy skills.





Eighty-three percent of children who are not reading by the fourth grade are at risk of not graduating from high school on time.

For the first 3 years, about 700 connections are made each second between brain cells. That's why reading and speaking to your young child is so important!



G



Getting ready to read skills (emergent literacy skills)are important skills that children need to develop before they can learn to read. Some examples are speaking to your child to help them learn vocabulary, reading to them and talking about the books you've read. Help from parents is important. Parents who read 1 book to their child every day will read 2,190 books by the time their child is 6. That can help educate them for their entire life.

If you read just one book a day to your child, they will have read 1,825 books by their 5th birthday.



Just talk to your child. A child's success in school can depend on the amount of talk they hear from birth to 3. Kids who are read to and spoken to early on become good readers later on in life.







Literacy development isn't about a small important period of learning, it's more about a large period of learning that lasts until a child is 10. Even if a child doesn't have a lot of exposure to language and reading at home, they can still catch up by doing things like, going to preschool, tutoring, and mentoring.





More than 1 in 3 American children start kindergarten without the skills they need to learn to read.





Not surprising, that because the way the brain develops, young children who are exposed to early language and literacy experiences usually go on to be good readers in life.





On average, children in families with low incomes have heard less language and up to 30 million fewer words than their more wealthy peers by age 3.



Playing with parents and siblings is an awesome way for children to start to develop early literacy skills. They will learn these skills by talking and participating in conversations.





Questioning if the first three years are important? Infants and toddlers begin learning thousands of words they'll use throughout their entire lives during this time period.



Reading every day is important! According to The Literacy Project Foundation, about half of kids from birth to five years old (47.8%) are read to every day by their parents or family members.



S

Start reading, if you haven't started yet. It is important for you to read because it develops the mind. Teaching young children to read helps them develop their language skills. It also helps them learn to listen.



"The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) found that children who were read to frequently are also more likely to: count to 20, or higher than those who were not (60% vs. 44%), write their own names (54% vs. 40%), read or pretend to read (77% vs. 57%)" - According to The Literacy Project Foundation



U



Unbelievable that 50% of Americans cannot read a book written at an 8th grade level. That is why it is so important to start reading early and to make reading an important part of your home.

Versus not reading, why is reading so important?



Reading can help you communicate better in person and even help you get a better job, like being a doctor or a scientist.

Why do we have to read? Reading keep us entertained. If you read 20 minutes a day, you will read about 1,000,000 words a year!!!

*That's if you read 136 words per minute. That would be like a 5th grader at the end of the year.



Exposure early is important, by 3, about 85% of the brain is developed.



Young children who are read to, sung to, and talked to from a young age have bigger vocabularies, become better readers, and typically do well in school.

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\underline{Z} ero books at home prevents children from reading. You can borrow books for free by joining your local public library. LIBRARY

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