



Preschool Language and Literacy Tip Sheet

Quality early care environments encourage staff to use concrete strategies to support children's language development in both English and their home languages.



Helping children to expand vocabulary - help children learn new words through a variety of interactions and experiences.

Encouraging children to use language - foster communication skills through interactions with staff and one another.

Staff use of books with children - stimulate the desire to read by engaging children with books individually and in small groups while the children are interested and engaged.

Encouraging children's use of appropriate books - provide and encourage the use of a wide-range (fantasy, real-life, race, culture, gender, age, ability) of interesting books for children to use on their own in a book interest center.

Special whole group book times (i.e. during circle time) should be limited and set up to encourage engagement, not take place during routines (i.e. while some children set the table, during restroom breaks, or while children are washing hands). They should be based on the individual needs of the children. Children should never be forced to participate in whole group literacy and/or language activities.