Fun and Engaging Early Literacy Activities designed to Meet the Needs of ALL Learners

Because learning changes everything.
Vision

▪ CAAEYC envisions a respected professional workforce providing developmentally appropriate and culturally sensitive, high-quality, early care and education for all young children achieved through research, education, professional development and advocacy.
Today’s Goals

- Review the Critical Pre-Reading and Early Literacy Skills & Necessary Accommodations
- Model Best Practices & Explore Do’s/Don’ts
- Examine Effective Vocabulary Strategies and Oral Language Development Activities
LEP Population

- Between 1990 and 2015, the LEP population grew 80% from nearly 14 million to 25.1 million.

- The Census Bureau codes 382 individual languages and language groups.

- More than 25 million people over the age of 5 in the United States were considered Limited English Proficient in 2015.

- 80% of ELs nationally are from Spanish-language backgrounds.

- The number of LOTE speakers is projected to increase to 64 million in 2025.
Every year, more than 1 in 3 American children start kindergarten without the basic language skills they need to learn to read.

Reading proficiency by the third grade is the most important predictor of high school graduation and career success...

Approximately two-thirds of children each year in the United States and 80% of those living below the poverty threshold fail to develop reading proficiency by the end of the third grade.


Early Literacy Competency Matters!
The Achievement Gap Begins at Home

Cumulative Language Experience

Cumulative Words Spoken to Child (in millions)

Age of Child

- Professional: 45 words
- Working-Class: 20 words
- Low-Income: 13 words

Hart and Risley, 1995
Equity for ALL

DIFFERENTIATE instruction and provide EQUITY for ALL students
Build a Gateway to a Lifetime of Reading

The Reading Pyramid

- Comprehension
- Vocabulary
- Fluency
- Phonics/Decoding
- Phonemic Awareness
A growing body of evidence suggests that almost all reading problems are preventable. (Goldenberg, 1994; Hiebert & Taylor, 1994; Reynolds, 1991)
The Case for Prevention

3RD GRADE LITERACY MILESTONE

A child who can read on grade level by 3rd grade is 4X more likely to graduate by age 19 than a child who does not read proficiently by that time.

The Case for Prevention

1 in 6 children who are not reading proficiently in 3rd grade will not graduate from high school.

3rd graders who are below basic readers are 6x more likely to drop out or fail to graduate on time than proficient readers.

42% of 3rd grade boys are below grade level in reading, compared to 34% of girls.
Alphabetic Knowledge

A, B, C, D, E, F, G
H, I, J, K, L, M, N
O, P, Q
R, S, T
U, V, W
X, Y, Z

Now I Never Will Forget How to Say the Alphabet
critical to student success and development

Social/Emotional Companion

74% of teachers are devoting more time to teaching SEL today compared to five years ago.
**Hand Puppets** are an ideal springboard for developing speaking and listening skills

*Children often communicate more easily with puppets, giving them confidence to express their ideas and feelings.*

*Shy children can become acquainted with others through the roles they take on.*

*Children are free to try on new personalities and take them off again, with a puppet on their hand, broadening their own in the process.*

*Puppet play provides an opportunity to gain some control over their world by working out fears and frustrations.*
Emotional "literacy" implies an expanded responsibility for schools in helping to socialize children.

**SEL** is the set of skills and behaviors involved in understanding and managing emotions, setting positive goals, feeling empathy for others, engaging in positive relationships, and solving problems effectively.

**S.T.A.R.** (Smile, Take A Deep Breath, & Relax)
As children enter class: “Twinkle Twinkle”

I LOVE YOU Rituals

Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star,
What a wonderful child you are,
With bright eyes and nice, round cheeks,
A talented person from head to feet.
Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star,
What a wonderful child you are!

-Dr. Bailey
Decades of research have demonstrated that instruction in social and emotional competencies lead to a wide variety of short- and long-term benefits, including:

- Improved academic performance
- Increased positive behaviors and attitudes
- Decreased school suspensions, class disruptions, aggression, juvenile crime, and other negative behaviors and consequences
- Higher graduation rates
- Improved workforce readiness
- Higher adult income levels
Literacy Basics

Phonemic awareness is the best predictor of early reading acquisition (Stanovich, 1994), better even than IQ, vocabulary, and listening comprehension.
Phonological Awareness

- Words in sentences
- Onset-Rime
- Syllables
- Rhyme/Alliteration
- Phonemic Awareness
  - Addition/Deletion/Substitution
  - Blending
  - Isolation
  - Segmenting
Phonemes, Graphemes and Letters
Phonological and Phonemic Awareness

- Phoneme Segmentation
- Phoneme Deletion/Substitution
- Phoneme Blending
- Phoneme Comparison
- Onset and Rime Segmentation
- Syllable Awareness
- Rhyming and Oral Language
Let’s Practice

sun...shine flash...light class...room

sis...ter ta...ble go...pher

En Español

me...sa so...pa pa...to
Systematic Teaching and Learning

Phoneme Segmentation