

Weaving the Literacy Blanket: Caring Adults Pass on the Legacy of Literacy

5 years

Three Threads

Nurturing and Sustaining the Literacy Relationship means that caring adults create unique joyful language and learning experiences through book sharing. These special times establish the reading experience as positive and contribute significantly to vocabulary, and cognitive/ emotional development.

Nurturing and Sustaining Understandings about How Print Works means actively learning /experiencing how words work, the purposes for print, and print conventions such as left to right sweep, letters vs. words etc. This results in a child becoming a strong reader who constructs meaning, uses successful strategies while reading, and thinks critically.

Nurturing and Sustaining the Love of Reading means caring adults connect the child with "just right books", by presenting a variety of engaging topics and genres that they know will appeal to the child. This results in meaningful, high volume reading. When the child reads a lot of books that are engaging, he/she becomes a self-motivated lifetime reader.

Together we Can...

Adults inform the child that they make stories every time they pretend-and this is why they are just like the authours who write your books.
Adults provide simple props and acknowledge child's efforts to create props for stories.
Adults encourage revisiting a familiar book and the retelling or acting out of the story as often as possible.
Adult provide more complex plots when they notice the child is ready. They find "just right books" by paying attention to the unique strengths and needs of the child.

Adult are eager to share " the way books work". They show the title, how we sweep across the page, and point out important words. Adults let the child know that you can talk to the author, there is a sequence to a story, and sometimes there are problems to be solved. Books help you have fun with interesting words. Rhyming words are a fun way to learn. Books have easy patterns that are joyfully repeated, and it is easy to predict what might happen next. Pictures are super important! Letters have different fonts and sizes. Adults accept the child's early writing efforts joyfully. Let them show you how to read.

Adults use texts to stretch understanding of new words. **Adults** provide many choices for self-selected reading time. They pay attention to the unique interests of the child. They search out print sources that match the child's interests and passions. This is what motivates and engages young readers- especially true for boys.

Adults help build background knowledge by providing a theme where new words are explored in different ways.

Adults introduce concept that some books are stories (fiction) and some books are about real things (information or non-fiction. Frequent teacher-child reading builds listening comprehension and confidence.

It Might Look Like This...

Adults and child have a routine established where books are celebrated...We all Read Together time right after lunch, we read before bed...we retell stories in the car. The child has his or her own book collection. **Adults** and child collect fun, playful ways to retell, explore the story so that it becomes very familiar.... Play Prop Boxes are easily available and up-dated on a regular basis. **Adults** use culturally relevant stories. Caregivers take every opportunity to present culture/stories revealed in print. Home reading bags contain culturally accurate visuals and content.

Adults talk about the cover and the title because this gets great connections and conversations going about what the book is going to be about .The books are easy to locate and the covers are displayed. **Adults take pictures** of kids using the left to right sweep and post it with "I am a Reader" caption. Kid writing is worked into all sorts of everyday activities. Print is so helpful! Knowing the sounds that 6-10 letters, enables "kid writing" possible. If we can say it, we can write it. this. **Adults** zero in on specific words or phrases. For example: use a tiny voice for a tiny animal. Adults say "round up the rhymes" find pattern, predictions? Punctuation is now talked about.

Adults have gathered many books about salmon. The texts are used to zero in on a new word/concept like "Life cycle".

Adults are listening for new interests that a child has. They stay up-to- date with the newest and most popular titles.

Adults in school and in the home environment join together to focus on a theme, because this helps build vocabulary. Adults pay attention to what works for book topics at each age level.

Adults label a few genres (fiction, non-fiction, poem, list) while guiding "just right" book selection. They talk about how helpful lists are and how we use environmental print in every-day situations. Adults promote reading all day, every day!

Child Might Say...

I like reading after lunch. Tonight daddy can read to me. We have a nice place to read together.

Tell the story again. I will be the troll this time.

My Mom and I are going to Literacy night at school. We like our home reading program.

Saturday is a good day because we go to the library. I found a Hul'quim'i num book.

I can sing the alphabet song and find my letter.

I will read a story to my stuffies. Watch me show you how to read the words. See a word is just lots of letters in order.

When I read this part I talk in a big voice. Did you notice the speech bubble? I use pictures to help me read. I like to write my own stories. Let's read my story together. See how I used letters that matched the sound I heard in the word.

I know a lot about salmon because we learn about salmon every day.

I leaned that wolves eat salmon. I got a new wolf stuffie. I like books about wolves now.

I know about eagles . I have a book that points to the eagles beak and his talons.

Some books tell a story and some are real pictures. I like both kinds.

I just want to read Lego Chima books.

Name _____

Literacy Coaches _____

Date _____

I have learning stories to share