

FOR THE LOVE OF LITERACY!

A Session for Parents and Child Care Providers

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Definition...

- Early Literacy learning - the time period from birth to six years of age
- Early Reading - occurs in kindergarten into the early elementary grades





Stages of Reading

- Infant (birth to 18 mts) – can hold and orient a book, point out fave pix and id pix on request...
- Toddler (...3 yrs) – recite phrases or more; pretend to read to self; will object if parent stuffs up!
- Preschooler (3-4 yrs) – recite entire passages; colours, shapes, descriptions etc; get humour; make up own stories



What to do?? Motivate!!

- So many types of books... flaps, touch/feel, sounds, lights etc...
- Read fave book. Over. And over. And over. And once more...
- Let child lead. Read WITH your child, not TO your child... OWL...



Oral Language Skills

- Very strong link between this and later reading ability

Your role during interactive read-alouds...
to promote oral language you can...

Consider the questions used...

Big Black Bear, W. Lee

- WH -
- Recall -
- Did you ever -
- Open ended -
- Prompts to interpret/predict -



...and consider comments.

- Fill in the blank...
- I notice...
- I wonder...
- This reminds me
- I think...
- I remember...





Print Referencing

- An adult's use of verbal and non-verbal behaviours to direct a child's attention to the forms, features and functions of written language
- Research (Dr. Laura Justice, OH State Univ.) shows as a general rule, we don't...
- But when we do - **WOW!**

How do I "reference print"?

- Non-verbally - tracking and pointing
- Verbally - eg Is that a "D"?
- Requests...

Show me where to read.



Talk about...

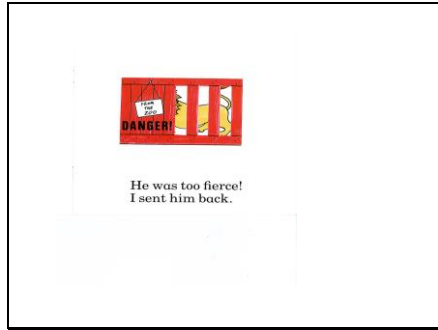
- The alphabet! (Find all the "a"s)
- Book title and author (illustrator)
- Count the letters in a word... and later, count the words in a sentence
- Comment on letters/words that are the same

Personal favourites...#1

- **Embedded print...** It's hiding everywhere.




example... *Dear Zoo* by Rod Campbell

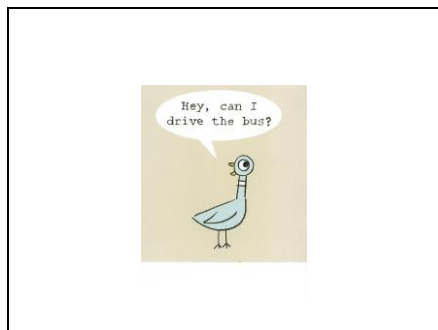


Personal favourite #2

- **Speech bubbles!** They are awesome.



example...
Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus
by Mo Willems

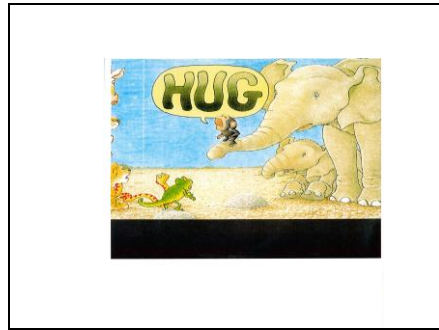


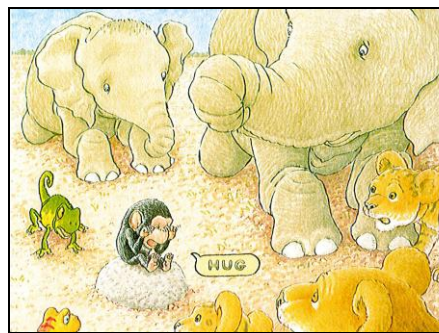
Personal Favourite # 3

• Funky



example... *HUG* by Jez Alborough





Environmental Print

- Bring attention to print that occurs daily in child's environment
- Examples?
- "M", WAL*MART, STOP, EXIT, CHAPTERS etc



Be a Pop-Culture Vulture!

- Use children's high interest areas to our "literary advantage"
- Examples?







Home and Daycare

- "literacy enriched" play settings
- Literacy stuff - writing centre, paper, markers, crayons etc
- Inviting reading area - comfortable, accessible, good variety of books
- Print embedded everywhere! labels, flyers, calendars, sticky notes
- Give things initials!



Phonological Awareness

- PA = knowledge of the sound system of our language
- Children with poor PA often have difficulty with reading
- Not just for SLPs or teachers!

How do I use PA??

- Rhyming - Don't underestimate!
- Alliteration - words that start the same
- Syllables - can emphasize in a word; compound words