

Early Literacy Enhanced Storytimes Incorporating ECRR2

Each storytime:

- One skill
- 3 Early Literacy Asides (the 3 Es)
 1. **Explain** the skill
 2. **Example** of the skill in practice, in one of your stories or activities
 3. **Empower** to do at home or in child care setting

One skill

Phonological Awareness (play with smaller sounds in words)
Vocabulary (know meanings of words)
Narrative Skills (expressive language, recounting events/stories)
Print Awareness (print has meaning, environmental print, handling book)
Letter Knowledge (same letter looks different, letters have names, represent sounds)
Print Motivation (enjoyment of books and reading)



Many practices

Sing
Talk
Read
Play
Write

Baby Storytime Example

Explain: Our early literacy tip of the day today is on helping your child hear the smaller sounds in words which is called phonological awareness, one of the six early literacy skills researchers say is important for the decoding part of reading, sounding out words from the letters they will read. As you'll see today, singing with your children is not only fun but also helps them later with reading.

Example: [Sing a song of your choice.]

Aside: In many songs, there is a different note for each syllable, so your baby is hearing words broken down into smaller sounds. Singing slows down language which makes it easier for your baby to hear.

Empower: I have a handout here with the words of the songs we sang today. Over the coming week, I hope you'll sing these songs over and over with your baby. Children learn through repetition. You can sing songs to your children in whatever language is most comfortable to YOU! Don't worry if you "can't sing". Your child loves the sound of your voice and singing with them helps hear the smaller sounds in words when they learn to read.

Preschool Storytime Example

Explain: Our early literacy tip of the day today is on narrative skills, which includes encouraging your child to talk about their own experiences. When your child has good narrative skills, researchers note it helps your child later with comprehension, understanding what he reads. I'll be pointing out some ways you can support narrative skills through talking and playing.

Example: Read *Benny Bakes a Cake* by Eve Rice. Go back to the page where Benny is crying. Ask how Benny is feeling (sad, frustrated). Ask: "When have you felt that way?"

Aside: Having your child describe his feelings and talk about the situation not only helps us understand his feelings, but also gives him the opportunity to describe something that happened and how he felt about it which supports narrative skills.

Empower: You can support narrative skills through play. When your child is playing, take the opportunity for some pretend play or role playing. Encourage your child to talk about what is happening and to use his imagination. Give your child plenty of time to respond and follow your child's lead. **OR**
You can support narrative skills through writing. Have your child draw a picture of a story or something that happened. Encourage your child to tell you what is happening in the picture. Write down your child's words.

Some other possibilities:

How we talk, sing, read, write and play with our children makes a difference in helping them get ready to learn to read. Today I'll be pointing out some activities you can do to help develop vocabulary, knowing the names of things. Researchers note that when children have a large vocabulary, it is easier for them to both understand what they read and to identify words when they try to sound them out.

How we talk, sing, read, write and play with our children makes a difference in helping them get ready to learn to read. Today I'll be pointing out some ways singing and playing can support hearing the smaller sounds in words, phonological awareness. This is one of the six skills that researchers have noted help your children get ready to learn to read.

Our early literacy tip of the day today is letter knowledge, knowing that the same letter can look different, that letters have names and represent sounds. Researchers have found that children identify letters by their shapes. I'll be pointing out some ways you can support this skill as you sing and talk with your children.