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## Six building blocks for early literacy...



Vocabulary—knowing the names of things is very important when learning to read. Many children know around 4,000 words when they enter school.

Print Motivation—showing interest and enjoyment in books.

Print Awareness—learning that writing follows basic rules, like the words flowing from top to bottom and left to right.

Narrative Skills—understanding and telling stories.

Letter Knowledge—learning that letters have names and sounds.

Phonological Awareness— hearing and playing with individual sounds

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## Ways that we can help you and your child...

- Provide strategies to promote reading
- Provide resources
- Model lessons and/or interactions
- Provide ideas on how to implement strategies
- Discuss and share ideas to help your child become a better reader

**Please Reach out for more tips and tricks.  
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## Kent County Public Schools



## Early Childhood Literacy



Literacy information, strategies, and resources for parents and caregivers.

## It starts with oral language...



### It's never too early to start...

Children learn very early about how language works, so nurture language development by having conversations even before your child can speak.

Peer learning is an important part of language development, so be sure to encourage interactions among children.

As children begin to learn written language, continue to encourage these interactions.

If you read just **one** book a day to your child, they will have been read **1825** books by their 5th birthday.

Every Day Counts.  
Every Book Counts.

## Activities to do at home...

- Talking, singing, and playing sound and word games will set up a good literacy foundation.
- Read a bedtime story. Look at and discuss the pictures. Encourage your child to turn the pages. Use your finger to guide the child's eyes from right to left across the page.
- Create a shopping list together.
- Play a rhyming game.
- Create your own book with things your child likes to look at or likes to touch.
- Encourage your child to act out the story you are reading.
- Play word detective—figure out a word's meaning. Start with compound words like cupcake or skateboard.
- Take words apart and put them back together again by their sounds—say it slowly then say it quickly.
- Connect experiences and activities to books you read.



## General tips and guidelines...



- Read every day/night.
- Choose engaging books.
- Leave out a word and have your child fill in the missing word.
- Go to the library and let your child help select books.
- Ask questions.
- Talk about how much you enjoy books and reading.
- Read with fun and expression in your voice.
- Be interactive and point out things on the pages.
- Know that it's ok to read a book again and again—it may be your child's favorite.