

Print Concepts

Children acquire print awareness through exposure to print. Reading aloud to your child will develop emergent reading skills. Use fun nursery rhymes to practice book concept skills.

Emergent Skills:

1. Letter Recognition
2. How and why we use written words
3. Holding Books
4. Listening to Books
5. Pointing at Objects in Books
6. Interacting with the book



Alphabet Letter Names

• Alphabet knowledge is the single best predictor of later reading and writing success (2008, National Early Literacy Panel).

• **Alphabet Teaching Tips:**

Young children may acquire letter name knowledge through several avenues.

1. Children most easily learn letters found in their names. Inserting a child's name in a rhyme can be helpful.
2. The more frequently exposed letters are in printed text, the more quickly they are learned. Making nursery rhyme posters can be helpful for print awareness.



Nursery Rhyme and Puppets

For younger readers, phoneme skills predict early reading achievement. Nursery Rhymes are a tool used to teach phonemic skills.
(Hatcher, Hulme, & Snowling, 2004)

Early Literacy

Nursery Rhymes

Knowledge of nursery rhymes enhances children's phonological awareness and sensitivity to individual phonemes and rhyme, and stimulates phonemic awareness (Harper, 2011).



Choose rhymes that your child enjoys. Adding props, finger puppets, and hand motions helps to make singing and chanting fun. Putting the rhyme on chart paper helps form a connection between words and their print message.



Tactile And Kinesthetic Activities

Humpty Dumpty

Children recite the rhyme while placing felt character pieces in the correct order.

Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

Children read the poem on a rebus poster with their families. They use props to match what they read on the poster.

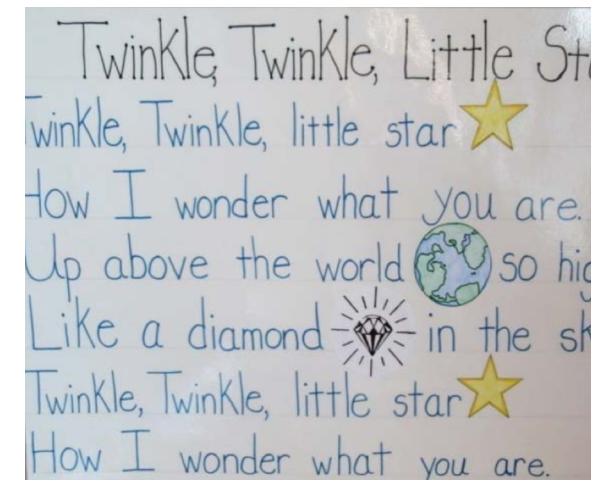
Itsy, Bitsy Spider

Children sing the song and act it out with hand motions.

Hickory Dickory Dock

Children recite the rhyme and use props to act it out.

Early literacy is among the most important phases of literacy development. Reading skills are best predicted by phonemic awareness development (Hatcher, Hulme, & Snowling, 2004). Alphabet knowledge is the single best predictor of later reading success (National Early Literacy Panel, 2008). Families can take advantage of naturally flowing song-like nursery rhymes to teach early literacy skills to their children.



Phonological Awareness is an important precursor in learning to read (Harper, 2011).