



## *Ever wonder what counts as family literacy?*

- Oral storytelling
- Reading and being read to
- Searching a topic on the internet
- Reading fact plaques at a zoo or museum
- Playing board games
- Listening/viewing a book on line
- Writing a shopping list
- Reading a recipe / helping to cook or bake
- Singing and Drama
- Sending an e-mail
- Enjoying a comic
- Sharing the newspaper
- Enjoy a nature walk and conversation
- Writing a story
- Visiting an art exhibit or library
- Looking at photo albums
- Making party invitations
- Writing thank you cards
- Talking through a math problem
- Reading food labels and cereal boxes
- Watching and discussing a movie

This list is just a start. Talk to your child's teacher for additional literacy ideas.



Home literacy activities should be positive and pleasurable. Not only will children build vocabulary and background knowledge, but their well-being will benefit from the quality time they spend with their loved ones in the company of text.



# *Family Literacy*



## *Curriculum Design and Assessment 2010 - 2011*



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## Before Reading

- Ask the child what they would like to read
- Ask your child if there is something special they would like you to notice or listen for in their reading
- Make sure you and the child are comfortable and can both see the text easily
- Discuss the title or topic to build the prior knowledge and vocabulary the child will need for the text
- Talk about what you might learn from the text
- Let the child hold the text or work the computer
- Be enthusiastic



a b c d  
e f g h i  
j k l m n  
o p q r  
s t u v  
w x y z



## During Reading

- If the child hesitates at a word, give him/her time to solve it on their own
- Invite the child to share and use the reading strategies that were taught in school
- Stop periodically to ask the child if what they are reading is making sense
- Encourage the child to use pictures and diagrams for assistance
- Encourage the child to look at letter combinations rather than sounding out individual letters
- If unable to read the text, encourage the child to echo some of the words as you read them



## After Reading

After enjoying the text with the child, you may choose to do one of the following:

- Compliment their efforts while inviting them to self-assess their experience with the text and set a goal for next time
- Be constructive and specific in your feedback. For example, "I noticed you used a stronger voice when you saw the bold letters. What else can you do with your voice to make the story interesting for a listener?"
- Talk about the text
- Ask the child to retell the text in his/her own words
- Have the child ask you some questions about the text
- Discuss connections between his/her experiences and the text
- Explore other possible books, movies, websites, art pieces, songs etc. that may connect with the text
- Find other texts by the same author or illustrator
- Invite your child to reflect on the text in a creative way using technology, art, voice, writing, theatre, or simply by sharing it with another loved one.

