




Literacy

- Begins at birth
- Is a manifestation of healthy development
- Is supported by rapid brain development




3rd Grade “Reader”




- Fluent text-decoder
- Understands genres (non-fiction v. fiction)
- Draws meaning from text and applies
- Problem-solver
- Friend

Preschool “Reader”



- Interest in stories and books
- Understand that text and spoken words and ideas are connected
- Use words to convey information, stories, feelings, ideas
- Understand that letters, sounds, and words are connected


Toddler “Reader”



- Stories and pictures are connected
- Books and pictures tell stories and information
- Words are powerful! (They help you get what you want and can be fun!)

Infant “Reader”

- Uses senses to learn: taste, feel, smell, vision, hearing
- Words are powerful!
- Understands that faces and words and actions go together
- “Reads” people – especially faces



The Building Blocks
Processes that Support Emergent Literacy


Language

Frequent
1:1
Warm interaction
Vocabulary




Frequent, 1:1 Interactive Storyreading

Talking about text




Frequent, 1:1 Interactive Storyreading

Pointing




Frequent, 1:1 Interactive Storyreading

Warm, positive interaction



Play

- Frequent opportunities
- Extended periods of time
- Adult scaffolding



The Foundation

Healthy Brain Development
and Emergent Literacy

What Children (and Families) Need...

- Health Care, Nutrition
- Safety
- Healthy Relationships
- High quality programs

Relationships

- Warm interactions
- Frequent 1:1 interactions
- Safe and Secure
- Serve and Return
- Rich, complex language

High Quality Programs

- Low child:adult ratios
- Rich interactions with adults and children
- Highly trained teachers

Building Blocks Together



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