

Get Ready to Read

Set your young child up for reading and writing by building knowledge, skills, and habits that create a strong foundation for future literacy.

Knowledge

- Build conversation skills through play with peers
- Introduce new words
- Play letter, number, and counting games
- Go on community outings to stores, museums, and parks

Skills

- Talk about the print you see around you
- Write lists
- Enjoy read-aloud books and talk about the pictures you see



Habits

- Ask your child to tell you about what they draw/write
- Choose screen-time activities that encourage learning new words and letters
- Build reading and writing into everyday routines such as bedtime stories and grocery lists

Start early with babies and toddlers

- Name familiar people, places, and things in photos
- Encourage scribbling to build small hand muscles for writing
- Encourage bilingualism by singing songs and reading stories in your family's heritage language



Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this tip sheet are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Illinois State Board of Education.



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