Foundations for Literacy

Literacy skills are built on the foundation established through early language skills.

The Take-Home
From birth, the infant brain is wired to gather information from everyday experiences in the world. For example, babies learn about language and communication from social interactions with other people. These experiences are critical to building foundational literacy skills.

Science Says
- Early language skills serve as the foundation for literacy development.
- The human brain is not born to ready to read. With training and practice, our brains learn to recognize words, match words with sounds, and associate words with meaning.
- Some people have more difficulty learning to read than others. This does not mean that they are less intelligent or that they won’t learn to read. Many different factors contribute to a child’s pre-literacy skills.

Try it at Home
- Make reading a part of your daily routine with your child, and make it fun! Sing songs or make funny sounds during story time.
- Children may enter kindergarten with a range of pre-literacy skills. It is important for teachers and families to provide a rich literacy environment for all children.
- Reading to and with children is a great way to boost pre-literacy skills.

Want to Learn More?

http://modules.ilabs.uw.edu/modules/foundations-of-literacy
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