



BUILDING LITERACY @ HOME



What is Early Literacy?

Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write. Many skills involved in speaking and understanding help lay the foundation for learning to read.

Language based literacy skills include:

- **Knowing and using different vocabulary words** (a great strategy is Shoot for the SStars – seen link below)
- **Understanding what is happening in a story**
- **Awareness of the sounds letters make**
- **Print Knowledge**
- **Being able to tell or retell a story**
- **Critical Thinking** (i.e. Es and Ps – see link below)

Build pre-reading skills with STORY BASKETS

inspired I Want My Hat Back by Jon Klassen



www.ureadyteddy.com

Little Helper Shopping List

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ Apples | ☐ Corn |
| ☐ Bananas | ☐ Cucumbers |
| ☐ Grapes | ☐ Potatoes |
| ☐ Strawberries | ☐ Onions |
| ☐ Blueberries | ☐ Bread |
| ☐ Oranges | ☐ Orange Juice |
| ☐ Broccoli | ☐ Milk |
| ☐ Lettuce | ☐ Eggs |
| ☐ Carrots | ☐ Bacon |
| ☐ Tomatoes | |

Farmers Wife Rambles

Daily Practice Ideas:

Day 1: Read a bedtime story with your child and talk about the pictures. Repetition helps – read it more than once!

Day 2: During meals, point out the text on food items (e.g. cereal boxes, apple juice carton). Talk about the different letters.

Day 3: Make a shopping list with your child. Write the words of the needed items and draw a quick image of them as well.

Day 4: Go on a nature walk outside and point out signs you see. Talk about the letters in the signs (e.g. 'stop' has letter 's'):

Day 5: While bathing your child, talk the beginning sounds of words (e.g. I am thinking of an animal that starts with 't', it is a cat and has stripes).

See back of page for additional information and resources!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Check out these links for more resources and activity ideas

- Check out this Hanen [parent checklist](#) to evaluate how you have been reading books with your child at home.
- Check out the [Book Nook](#) from Hanen for ideas on how to use books to build early literacy skills. The Book Nook is also on [Youtube](#).
- Check out these [tips for reading with your children](#). This link has some information in other languages as well (e.g., Spanish, Tagalog, Russian, Arabic, and many more).
- Check out these [5 literacy building](#) ideas from Hanen.
- Check out [this handout](#) on how to use Hanen's **Es and Ps** to build language and literacy skills
- Check out [this handout](#) on how to use Hanen's **Shoot for the SStars** to build vocabulary.

