

Learning To Love Literacy

A Family Newsletter

January 2012



Family Literacy Day
is Friday January 27th!



Once Upon A Time...
children were read to!

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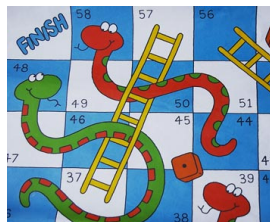


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Parents, did you know?

- ☺ You are your child's first and most important teacher!
- ☺ Literacy and language development begin at birth in the laps of parents.
- ☺ Your children learn from repetition of enjoyable, fun activities.
- ☺ Oral language development (speaking and listening) provides the base for growth in reading and writing.
- ☺ Your children will accomplish more when you collaborate with teachers and early learning and care professionals.
- ☺ You are a role model too!



Playing board games...

Compared to circular board games where you have to travel around a board, linear board games (ie. Snakes & Ladders) lead to greater learning in knowledge of magnitude, counting, number identification, and arithmetic.

(Developing Numeracy: Promoting a Rich Learning Environment for Young Children, 2009)

What is your family's favourite board game?



Winter Rhymes

Thumbs in the thumb place,
Fingers all **together**; this is the song
we sing in mitten **weather**!

I'm a frozen icicle hanging by your **door**,
When it's cold, I grow some **more**.
When it's warm, I'm on the **floor**!

Jack Frost bites your **nose**,
Chills your cheeks and freezes your **toes**.
He comes every year when winter is **here**
And stays until the spring is **near**.

Rhyming:

- ◆ is an early literacy skill all children need to develop as readers.
- ◆ helps children hear the rhythms, patterns and sounds of language.
- ◆ is fun to repeat. Children need lots of repetition to practice words.
- ◆ has a natural comforting rhythm that exposes children to language fun.
- ◆ can encourage listening skills.

Print your own sight word and concept books at home. This website has so many choices and it's so easy to find what your child is interested in reading about:

http://www.hubbardscupboard.org/printable_booklets.html

Family Literacy: the many ways families use language, reading and writing everyday.
Some suggestions:

- ◆ **Read daily with your child** for at least 15-20 minutes. Three books a day gets you about a 1000 stories a year!
- ◆ Make reading a **habit/routine**.
- ◆ **Point** out and read the **signs** and words all around you.
- ◆ Let your child 'catch' you **writing and reading**.
- ◆ **Talk, listen, and engage in a conversation** with your child.
- ◆ **Play** board games, card games and computer games too.
- ◆ Invite your child to **tell stories** and offer to **write them down**.
- ◆ **Sing**, clap and dance to music.
- ◆ **Ask for books and magazines** as gifts for your child's birthday or holidays.
- ◆ **Read alphabet books** - point to letters and say their sound.
- ◆ **Turn off the TV** and video games one hour each evening for reading and homework.
- ◆ **Visit the library** and the **Early Years Centre** for storytelling fun and activities.

Winter
Rhyming
Books:

