2023 Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!

The week of January 23-27, 2023 is designated by the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) as Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! Literacy development is an important part of a child’s education and it begins at birth. This year, our Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! theme is Take a Deep Dive Into Literacy – Splash Into New Worlds!

DEL will support the Celebrate Literacy Week theme from an early learning perspective with a focus on new experiences. Early childcare providers and preschools will incorporate early literacy skills into age-appropriate self-awareness topics related to families and their communities.

Please mark your calendars for the simultaneous reading activity on Wednesday, January 25, at 9 a.m. (EST). Providers will spread the love of literacy in their homes, centers, and schools by reading Ten Little Fish by Audrey and Bruce Wood to infants and toddlers (birth to 3-year-olds) and to preschoolers (3- to 5-year-olds).

**Ten Little Fish by Audrey and Bruce Wood**

Follow ten little fish as they swim along a beautiful ocean reef, one by one departing from the school for different reasons, eventually leaving one fellow all alone. What will he do? Along comes another, and that makes two! Soon they become a father and a mother with ten little children of their own. The rhyming text helps readers go from one to ten and back again, and each illustration pops with all the color and depth of an underwater playground.
Literacy Resources for Families on DEL’s Website

Your child’s learning and development starts at home. You are your child’s first teacher. Your child’s development of values, learning skills and social skills begins at birth. These resources will help you understand more about your child’s development and find activities and information to use at home with your child.

Family Resources | DEL (floridaearlylearning.com)
Division of Early Learning - Early Learning and Developmental Standards (floridaearlylearning.com)

Understanding Your Growing Child

Your relationship with your child and the time you spend together will help your child’s development in every way. Here is some information that may help you make the most of that time throughout your child’s first several years.

Take a look through our First Teacher books for guidance on your child's development and how to encourage them to explore, learn and grow.

- First Teacher: Birth to 8 Months
- First Teacher: 8 Months to 18 Months
- First Teacher: Two-Year-Olds
- First Teacher: 18 Months to 24 Months
- First Teacher: Three-Year-Olds
- First Teacher: Four-Year-Olds

Additional online resources for families and educators to support early literacy development

Get Ready to Read!

Products | Center for Early literacy Learning : CELL

Reading Rockets | Launching Young Readers

Articles for Families on Literacy | NAEYC

January 2023
Florida Grade-Level Reading Campaign

The Florida Grade-Level Reading Campaign serves as the state lead for all of Florida’s local campaigns, engaging community, business and civic leaders, supporting local efforts, and providing strategic guidance to help promote school readiness and quality instruction, tackle chronic absence, and improve summer learning opportunities, as well as engage parents as their children’s first teacher.

Florida Grade-Level Reading Campaign Resources

These easy-to-implement tips and strategies help build early language and literacy skills in the classroom and at home! The resources below contain a “Quick Tip” video

Teachers

- Ask Children to Make Predictions
- Ask Open-Ended Questions During Read Aloud
- Ask Questions During Read Aloud
- Ask Your Child to Retell the Story
- Child-Friendly Definitions for New Vocabulary
- Count the Words in a Book Title
- Encourage Children to Make Connections
- Expanding Children’s Responses
- Make Read Alouds Interactive
- Play Games to Support Word Awareness
- Play Rhyming Games with Children
- Play with Word Families
- Print Awareness Through Storybook Reading
- Reread Books to Children
- Syllables with Clapping Games
Families & Caregivers

Ask Children to Make Predictions
  Pídale a los Niños que Hagan Predicciones Durante la Lectura en Voz Alta

Ask Open-Ended Questions During Read Aloud
  Haga Preguntas Abiertas Durante la Lectura en Voz Alta

Ask Questions During Read Aloud
  Haga Preguntas Durante la Lectura en Voz Alta

Ask Your Child to Retell the Story
  Pídale a su Hijo que Vuelva a Contar un Cuento

Child-Friendly Definitions for New Vocabulary
  Utilice Explicaciones Comprensibles para Niños con el Vocabulario Nuevo

Count the Words in a Book Title
  Cuente el Número de Palabras que Hay en el Título del Libro

Encourage Children to Make Connections
  Anime a los Niños a Hacer Conexiones

Expanding Children’s Responses
  Apoye el Desarrollo del Lenguaje de su Hijo Ampliando sus Respuestas

Make Read Alouds Interactive
  Haga que la Lectura en Voz Alta sea Interactiva

Play Games to Support Word Awareness
  Juegue para Fomentar la Conciencia de la Palabra

Play Rhyming Games with Children
  Juegue con Rimas con los Niños

Play with Word Families
  Juegue con las Familias de Palabras

Print Awareness Through Storybook Reading

January 2023
• Conciencia de la Palabra Impresa Mediante la Lectura de Cuentos
• Reread Books to Children
  • Vuélvale a Leer los Mismos Libros a su Hijo
• Syllables with Clapping Games
  • Enfatice las Sílabas al Segmentarlas Mediante Palmadas

FGLRC’s Early Literacy & Related Resources Repository

Parents, Teachers and Policymakers are encouraged to explore the FGLRC’s Resource Repository which serves as a hub of high-quality science-of-reading-based resources created and made available by partnering agencies. Users may filter resources by audience and category.

World Read Aloud Day

World Read aloud Day, February 1, 2023, is an annual celebration to promote the power of reading. Reading aloud is very important for a child’s literacy growth and development. On World Read Aloud Day, encourage your child and others to pick up a book, find an audience and read aloud! Helping your child become a reader is the best gift parents and families can give.

Here are a few ways your family can celebrate World Read Aloud Day:

• Read a book to someone.
• Share new stories through your voice.
• Allow time for your children to settle into the story and talk about the story afterwards.
• Go on a story walk outside.
• Schedule a time during the day to read aloud at least one book.
4 things providers can do with these resources:

1. Share the literacy resources with teachers during staff meetings.
2. Use the resources to offer a literacy workshop for families to support early literacy skills.
3. Use the Get Ready to Read Early Literacy Checklists for schools and child care family homes to determine if the environment supports or hinders children’s literacy development. Share the Family Early Literacy Checklist with families.
4. Use the Literacy Tips for Families to create a poster to display in areas that families visit or include the tips in parent newsletters.

4 things families can do with these resources:

1. Learn and practice one new literacy skill each month with their child.
2. Download the flyers and watch the videos from Florida Grade Level Reading Campaign to learn more about how to support their child’s early literacy development.
3. Create a home library where the family can comfortably read books together.
4. Find opportunities to use the fun and exciting literacy learning experiences and opportunities from the Center for Literacy Learning Parent Guides.

4 things coalitions can do with these resources:

1. Share all of the early literacy resources with child care providers and family child care home providers.
2. Create a library at your coalition, give children books when they enroll with a new provider.
3. Distribute books for ages birth to 5 years of age to providers and family child care homes.
4. Build a Lending Library at your Early Learning Coalition for child care providers and family child care homes to check out Early Literacy books.