

Creating a Literacy Rich Environment in Your Home

Strong literacy skills are essential in today's society. Your children's teachers work hard every day to assist your children with their literacy skills. But you can help!

What can **you** do to support your child's literacy at home?

- Surround your children with **books!** (Give books as gifts... visit the library...)
- Create a bedtime routine that includes **nightly read alouds**. (There are picture books appropriate for children of all ages.)
- For older children, in addition to picture books, **read a novel together**.
- Give your child **authentic reasons to read**. For example, leave a note in their lunch kits.
- Build **regular talk time** into your day: during car rides and at dinner time are especially effective. Choose **one question a day** that everyone in the family can answer:
 - What was the best part of your day?
 - Was there something that surprised you today?
 - What did you find challenging today?
 - Did you notice someone being kind today? What were they doing?
- Involve your children in **authentic writing experiences**. How?
 - Send a letter or card to Grandma and Grandpa.
 - Have your children write thank you cards or emails when they receive birthday gifts.
 - Buy each of your children a journal where they can write or draw.