

Excerpt: Phonological Awareness



# **Early Literacy Development**

"Young children who are engaged in meaningful, knowledge-building experiences with print gain the foundational skills for becoming skilled readers and writers."

<sup>-</sup>Tanya S. Wright & Susan B. Neuman. (2009). American Educator, p. 35.



### Early Literacy Development: Overview

#### **Key Concepts**

- Print and Book Awareness
- Alphabetic Principle:
  - ☑ Phonological Awareness
  - Letter Knowledge and Early Word Recognition
- Written Expression

#### You Will Learn

- Ways to build book and print awareness
- How to enhance children's phonological awareness skills
- Activities that build letter recognition and letter-sound knowledge
- Ideas to promote children's writing development



### **Early Literacy Development**

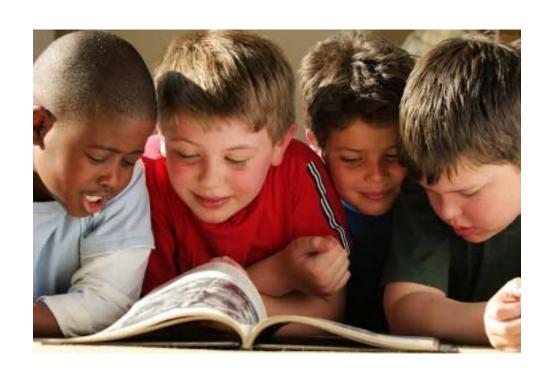
#### -a definition

- Children begin to develop skills related to early literacy beginning at birth.
- In these early years, they are not just getting ready to learn to read: they are LEARNING TO READ



### **Early Literacy Development**

Children enter preschool with a great diversity of literacy-related experiences and abilities



# + Fostering Early Literacy Development

- Children need meaningful knowledgebuilding experiences and instruction to support early literacy development. These include:
  - Activities that engage children in rich investigations which use language to make meaning
  - Positive relationships with adults who model reading and writing behaviors
  - Print-rich environments

## Fostering Early Literacy Development

- Opportunities to talk about what is reading
- Experiences that develop phonological awareness
- Opportunities to engage in play that incorporates written language and writing tools
- First-hand experiences that expand children's vocabulary and concepts and builds background knowledge

# Phonological Awareness

- Involves understanding how the sounds of spoken language can be segmented, combined, and manipulated
- Phonological awareness is an auditory skill that need not involve print
- It is a strong predictor of children's later reading success

# Phonological Awareness

Phonological awareness is a crucial step towards understanding the alphabetic principle



The understanding that the sequence of letters in written words represents the sequence of sounds in spoken words



Phoneme Segmenting,

Blending and Manipulation

**Onset-Rime** 

Blending and Segmenting

Syllable

Blending and Segmenting

Sentence Segmenting

Alliteration

Rhyming

### **Phonemic Awareness**

■Focuses on the individual sounds (or phonemes) in spoken words

Phonemes are the smallest units of sounds in spoken words.

■/d/ /o/ /g/ Dog

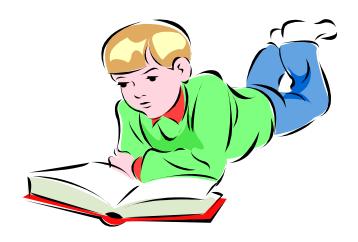
■/s/ /o/ /l/ Sun (in Spanish)





# Remember!

### Phonological awareness is NOT phonics











### Developing Phonological Awareness Skills

- Goals for the preschool years
  - ■The child:
    - Becomes sensitive to the sounds of spoken words
    - Begins to identify rhymes and rhyming sounds in familiar words
    - Participates in rhyming games, rhyming songs, and poems
    - Begins to break words into syllables
    - Creates and invents words, substituting one sound for another



# Phonological Skills in Pre-K

Preschool children begin to develop phonological awareness through language play and exposure to:

- ■Poems, songs, and nursery rhymes
- Language awareness games
- Rhythmic activities
- Phonological games and activities
- Patterned and predictable texts

# Phonological Awareness Activity

- ■What kind of phonological awareness activity is this?
  - Goldilocks glues globs of glitter?





- Rhyming
  - Rhyming chants, songs, and fingerplays
  - Nursery rhymes and other poems
  - Stories with rhyming text
  - Use of word deletions during repeated readings



#### Alliteration

- Recite poems, chants nursery rhymes and songs with repeating initial sounds
- Read alliterative texts
- Group objects by beginning sounds
- Play beginning sound name games
- Call attention to words with similar beginning sounds



- Sentence Segmenting
  - Select meaningful sentences from children's speech or favorite books
  - Have children clap/count each word in a sentence
  - Shuffle and reorder words in familiar sentences
  - Make silly phrases by deleting words from sentences

- Syllable Segmenting
  - Have children clap or tap out the syllables of their names and other favorite words



- Onsets and Rimes
- >Sort words into families by rims:
- >C...at, b...at, m...at, etc...
- >(Spanish) c...asa, p...asa, m...asa



### Phonological Awareness Continuum

- ■Phoneme Segmenting, Blending and Manipulation
  - Sing songs that involve phoneme replacement e.g. "Apples and Bananas,""The Name Game," "Mappy Mirthday

Moo, moo!"