

### **Important Messages of Early Literacy**

#### **Building Healthy Brains**

Healthy brains are built from early and positive experiences involving all of the senses. From the time baby is born, you are teaching the key skills for success in school and life. The first years of learning will build the foundation of learning that will last forever.

### Learning Begins with Play

Providing a wide range of play opportunities supports language development. Children learn more when they are engaged in activities that interest them. By playing and trying new things, children find out about themselves and their world, and build new skills.

#### Spoken Language is the Basis

When we teach children new words, how to speak using the proper grammar, how to speak in longer sentences using details, how to rhyme and how to play with sounds in words, we are giving them the basis for a lifetime of reading.

#### **Reading Aloud**

When parents and children read together, an important bond is formed - one that can lead to a love of learning and reading that will last a lifetime! Recent research proves that reading aloud to your child is the very best way to help your child become a great reader and be better prepared for school.

## Parents and Care Providers are their Children's Most Important Teachers

A loving relationship with an adult who is important to the child makes a big difference in the development of pre-reading/writing skills, regardless of the adult's own literacy skills. The time a parent spends playing or reading aloud with his or her child will make the child feel safe and secure.

# For More Information Contact:

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