



"Six Skills By Six": Six Early Literacy Skills Children Need *Before* Learning to Read*

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1. Narrative Skills

- Talk about your day and some of the events that happened.
- Ask your child to describe different objects, feelings 😊 😐 😞 and events.
- Let your child tell *you* stories...and explain their pictures, too.

2. Letter Knowledge

- Look at and talk about different shapes (circles ○, squares □, triangles △).
- Talk about and draw ✎ the letters of your child's name.
- Look for letters everywhere.

3. Print and Book Awareness

- Look for print 📖 everywhere.
- Show your child how to hold a book 📖, and let them turn the pages.
- Trace your fingers under the words as you read.

4. Sound Awareness

- Sing songs 🎵 and recite rhymes.
- Pick a sound for the day and find it at the beginning and end of words.
- Read books that include repetition and rhyme.

5. Print Motivation

- Have fun reading...act out scenes, laugh out loud.
- Read books that you both enjoy 👍.
- It is OK to stop if your child is tired or no longer interested. Just try again later.

6. Vocabulary

- Teach your child the names of things.
- Talk a lot, and ask your child questions.
- Explain the meaning of new words.

**Adapted from The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.*