



Importance of 1000 Books before Kindergarten

Development of reading and writing skills begins in the first three years of life. The more interaction a child has with books, printing, and adult guidance the more foundation is created for language, reading and writing. The skills develop at the same time and are intricately linked and continue to develop throughout life. When children enter Kindergarten with developed pre-reading skills they can focus on learning to read.

The Association of Libraries suggests these five components of early literacy:

- 1. Phonological Awareness
- 2. Print Motivation
- 3. Letter Knowledge
- 4. Narrative Skills
- 5. Vocabulary

Below are the names of these skills as used by the Lincoln County Bookmobile and Limon Memorial Library and how we use them.

Make Sounds~ Phonological Awareness

Hear and play with the smaller sounds of words and recognizing that words are made up of a number of different sounds.

Use Books~ Print Motivation

Point out print anywhere you need to read, show your child how to handle a book, and how to follow the written word on the page.

Know Letters~ Letter Knowledge

Let your child know letters are different from each other, know letter names and sounds, and recognize letters everywhere.

Tell Stories~ Narrative Skills

Describe events and make predictions of what might happen next in the book, or make up a new ending with your child.

New Words~ Vocabulary

After a story, go back to a page with an unfamiliar word or phrase, ask your child if they know what the word is. Then explain the word.