



1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

Examples of Early Literacy Moments

Read:

- Learn a new letter
- Model reading a story to a younger sibling or friend
- Find objects around the house that start with the same letter as your first name
- Point out colors and words on road signs
- Ask an adult to read cereal boxes or the packages of your favorite snacks
- Point out the letters in your name that you see around town or in signs
- Read a wordless picture book
- Look at pictures to learn new words
- Have an adult read you a poem

Write:

- Draw a picture of yourself reading a book
- Make a list with an adult before going shopping
- Use shaving cream on a table to write your ABCs
- Draw imaginary pets and give them funny names
- Build your name with items from nature like sticks, stones, shells, or feathers
- Dictate (retell) a story to

someone else and have them write it down

Talk:

- Go for a walk with a grown-up and find things that start with the letters "D," "R," and "S"
- Identify fruits and vegetables at the store by color or name
- Have a grown-up narrate what they are doing to baby - for example - we are getting ready to go to the store, so we need to put on our shoes, find mommy's purse and keys, and lock the door, etc...
- Identify body parts while getting baby dressed, undressed, or bathing
- Discuss the parts of a book with an adult. Where is the front of the book? Where does the story start? Who is the author? As your adult reads, have them move their finger under the words to show you how the words move across the page
- Tell an adult about what happened on a special occasion like on a birthday, on vacation, or holiday
- Discuss the difference between "real" and "make-believe"

Sing:

- Sing a song about something that you are eating
- Clap out the syllables in

- your name
- Learn a Mother Goose rhyme
- Have your parent sing their favorite song
- Sing "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes"
- Sing "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" with an adult, and choose the animals. Act like the animals or use puppets or stuffed animals

Play:

- Move like your favorite animal
- Build with blocks
- Play with an alphabet puzzle
- Act out your favorite fairy tale
- Learn a knock-knock joke
- Create a tower using plastic cups
- Jump and count to 10
- Play "I Spy with my little eye..."
- Scoop, dig, and build in a sandbox