

# Oregon's Early Learning and Kindergarten Guidelines

## Literacy

**Early literacy refers to the knowledge and skills that prepare children for reading and writing. Skills in this area include:**

- Understanding language
- Understanding how print is used
- Naming letters
- Producing letter sounds
- Understanding stories
- Asking questions about stories
- Writing for a variety of purposes
- Identifying pictures in stories in the home language
- Labeling book parts and features
- Identifying and counting syllables in spoken words

**Adults can help support children's development in this area by:**

- Reading books and telling stories
- Offering fun ways to write or trace letters
- Asking children to make up stories
- Playing games with letters and sounds
- Introducing new words
- Visiting the library
- Making sure that children have books at home
- Offering materials for writing
- Encouraging the development of literacy skills in the child's home language
- Providing support or accommodations for children to access reading materials and literacy experiences

