



Supercharged Storytimes Learner Guide

Module Two: Early Literacy Components and Engaging Parents and Caregivers

Use this learner guide as an anchor to support your experience of the Supercharged Storytimes self-paced course. As a **companion to the video recordings**, print a copy of this guide to jot down notes, participate in activities, and use as a basis for reflections on your learning. There is great learning value in writing things with pen and paper—it tunes your focus and helps the brain synthesize the important points to remember.

Phonological Awareness

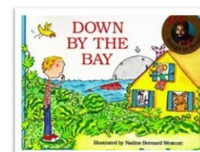
Phonological Awareness is the ability to hear and play with the smaller sounds in words. It supports decoding, or sounding out words.

- ◆ Did you look at the [Early Literacy Planning Tool for Phonological Awareness](#) and place checkmarks next to the strategies you've used in the past in your storytimes?

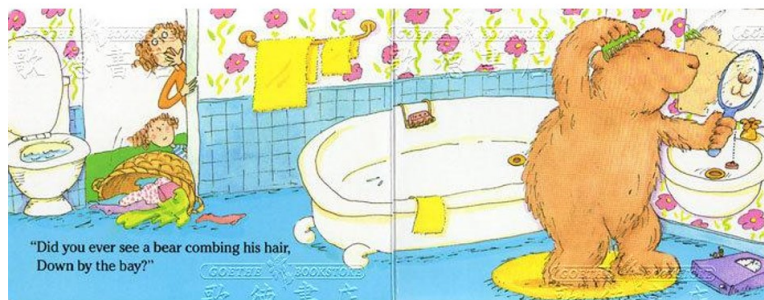
ACTIVITY

It's your turn to think about how you might use a book to emphasize Phonological Awareness.

What would you do to increase phonological awareness?



Place checkmarks on any part of the page you might use as a Phonological Awareness moment/opportunity



Book: Raffi Raffi and Nadine Bernard Westcott. 1999. *Down by the Bay*. New York: Troubadour.

When you're done, *resume the recording*.

When you look again at the Early Literacy Planning Tool for Phonological Awareness, it will be helpful to have these documents on hand for reference:

- ◆ [Early Literacy Planning Tool for Phonological Awareness](#)
- ◆ [Early Literacy Planning Tool Worksheet](#)

We will be using the planning tools and worksheet throughout the course, building a habit of using them together as a way to grow your intentionality.

Print Awareness and Print Concepts

This early literacy component is about helping children realize that print has meaning.

- ◆ Did you look at the [Early Literacy Planning Tool for Print Awareness/Concepts](#) and place checkmarks next to the strategies you've used in the past in your storytimes?

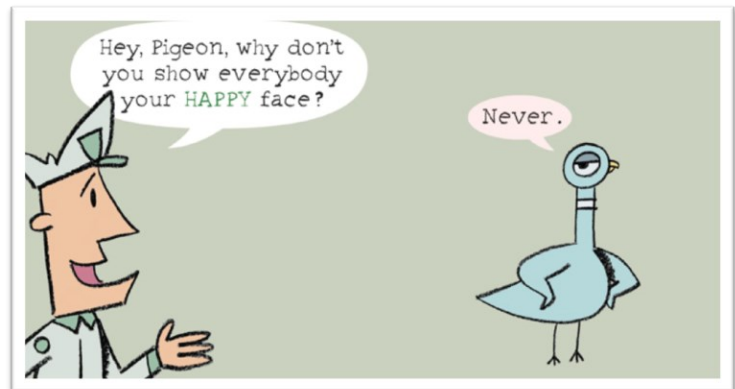
ACTIVITY

Take a moment to think about what you could do to illustrate print concepts on these pages.

- ◆ What can you point out where reading and writing are part of the story?
- ◆ What conventions of print can you point out?



Kleven Elisa. 2010. *Welcome Home Mouse*. 1st ed. Berkeley: Tricycle Press.



Willem Mo. 2005. *The Pigeon Has Feelings Too! : A Smidgeon of Pigeon*. 1st ed. New York: Hyperion Books for Children.

When you're done, *resume the recording*.

As you look at the [Early Literacy Planning Tool for Print Awareness/Concepts](#) again, what other strategies might you like to try to be more intentional around Print Awareness and Print Concepts?

It's HOW you share books, songs, and activities that helps children build their early literacy skills.

Connect and Engage with Parents and Caregivers

Part 1: Sharing Early Literacy Tips

Children are with their parents/caregivers every day. You can help them support their children's language and literacy development.

ACTIVITY

Whether you are a new or seasoned storytime provider, you may be hesitant around sharing early literacy tips with adults. Think about **how you feel** about doing this and check all the boxes that apply.

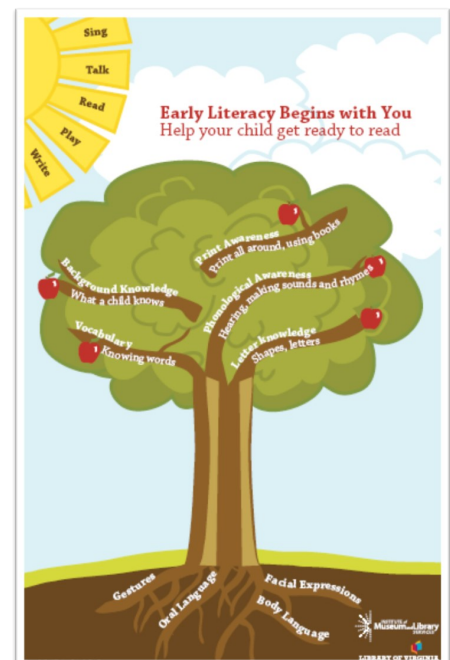
- It feels/will feel awkward and not fun
- Interrupting my storytime will lose kids' attention
- I don't want to sound "teachy" or condescending
- I'm not an early literacy expert
- Will they even listen to me?
- I've tried it and it didn't go well
- I'm excited to try it but I'm shy or nervous
- I already do this in my storytimes
- Other

If you have other feelings not shown here, make a note of them.

When you are done, *resume the recording*.

More Strategies

- ◆ Use something you already do to include a tip, like a host puppet.
 - ◆ Watch this [demonstration video](#) from storytime provider Katie Cunningham to see how she uses a puppet to talk to the adults.
- ◆ Write the tips out ahead of time so you don't have to worry about memorizing them.
 - ◆ Watch Mari Nowitz demonstrate [Using a Tip Jar](#) to share tips that are already written out.
- ◆ Print this colorful [Early Literacy Begins With You](#) poster so you have a visual aid as you say your early literacy tips to the adults.



Connect and Engage with Parents and Caregivers

Part 2: Early Literacy Through Adult-Child Activities

Increasing the participation of parents and caregivers with their children increases the likelihood that they will continue the activities that support early literacy at home.

ACTIVITY

How have you encouraged interactivity between adults and their children? How can you be intentional in making storytime activities interactive between adults and children?

When you are done, *resume the recording*.



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Just as parents and caregivers make a difference in their children's lives, **YOU** make a difference for the families you engage with.

Letter Knowledge

Letter Knowledge is the ability to distinguish letters, name letters, and know that letters represent sounds.

- ◆ When Saroj talks about the “**sequence of development**” for letter knowledge, she points out that this progression is also reflected in the ELPT *as the strategies progress for each age group*.
 - ◆ Look at the [Early Literacy Planning Tool for Letter Knowledge](#) to compare this progression.

ACTIVITY



Singing can be a great way to support Letter Knowledge. The Alphabet song is an obvious choice.

Jot down some other songs you might use for Letter Knowledge.

When you are done, *resume the recording*.

NOTES

Use this page to write notes, questions, and reflections on what you are learning.