

## “I Like to Learn New Words”



- Read with children every day
- Point to pictures and talk about them
- Talk about how you feel
- When children make sounds or talk, listen and then answer

## “I Like to Look at Pictures and Words”



- Point to words as you read and repeat
- Read print found in your home or outside like labels, signs and menus
- Ask your child about what they see on the page, or sign
- Show your child that the book is held in two hands

## “I Like How Words Sound”



- Have fun listening to and playing with the smaller sounds in words
- Say rhymes and make up silly poems, chants or songs
- Read books with rhyming words and sing songs

Read Out Loud!

Read With Your Child 20 Minutes a Day!

Act It Out!



## “I Love When You Read to Me”

- Pick books that your child will like
- Sit with your child in a quiet place
- Show that it is fun to read or talk about books
- Show your child how to print words

## “I Know Letters Are Everywhere”



- Make letters from clay or use magnetic letters
- Point out letters when reading books
- Say words slowly so your child hears all the sounds in the word
- Trace or copy shapes, letters, words and numbers

## “I Enjoy Telling Stories”

- Have your child tell the story
- Ask your child questions about the story or the pictures
- Talk about the pictures in the book
- Tell family stories



# Literacy. It Is Never Too Early.

## Why Early Literacy ?

Early literacy is important!

- Children must develop early literacy skills before learning to read
- Sharing books and stories is a special way for you to bond with your child
- Children who enjoy reading with you will want to learn to read
- Children with strong early literacy skills are more likely to have success in school and in life
- Strong early literacy skills can be the start of strong literacy and communication skills throughout life
- Reading with your child shows them that reading is important and fun

## Use your home language

- Tell stories, read books, and sing songs with your child in your home language
- Use your home language to give your child a strong language foundation and more literacy skills
- Use your home language to help your child learn about your family and your culture
- Children need to be able to talk about their feelings and ideas in their home language(s) before they start to learn another language
- If you use your first language at home, your child will still be able to learn another language (at school)

## STEERING COMMITTEE

*Baby Connections*

*Big Brothers, Big Sisters*

*Cambridge Libraries and Galleries*

*Canadian National Institute for the Blind*

*Conestoga College, Early Childhood Education*

*Early Childhood Professional Resource Centre*

*English at First*

*Family and Children Services*

*Home Child Care (Region of Waterloo)*

*K-W Habilitation Services*

*KidsAbility*

*Kitchener Public Library*

*Ontario Early Years Centre*

*Our Place (OEYC)*

*Project READ Literacy Network*

*Region of Waterloo Library*

*Strong Start®*

*Waterloo Catholic District School Board*

*Waterloo Public Library*

*Waterloo Region District School Board*

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Early Literacy Alliance of Waterloo Region (ELAWR)

FOR  
PARENTS



## From Birth to Age Six



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OF WATERLOO REGION

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