



Inspiring Language Development During the Critical Early Years

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1



2

Communication can take many forms:

- Eye Contact
- Sounds
- Gestures
- Repeated Phrases
- Created Words
- Words
- Songs



3



Experiences to Talk About

4



Windows of Opportunity: Language Development

5

Language is Social

- + People to communicate with
- + Experience to talk about
- + Responsive interactions



6

During Pandemic



1. Less social contact
2. Limited experiences
3. More screen time
4. Book sharing impacted

7


“Delay in language is the most common developmental disorder in children aged 3 to 6.”

(Journal of Community Medicine and Health Education, 2018)

8

Varied Language Experiences

- Quality and quantity of words heard
- Responsiveness
- Books Sharing
- Conversations
- Encouragement
- Cultural and family differences



9

Bilingual Young Children

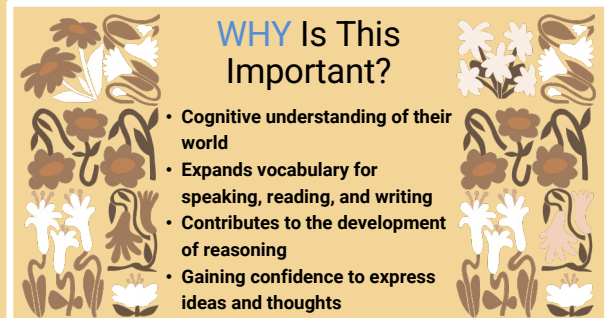
- Immersed in language-rich environment
- Use different languages in different settings
- Meaningful conversations in different languages
- Speaking various languages is beneficial for brain connections



10



WHY Is This Important?

- Cognitive understanding of their world
- Expands vocabulary for speaking, reading, and writing
- Contributes to the development of reasoning
- Gaining confidence to express ideas and thoughts



11

Infants

12



13

Language Explosion

Toddlers:
18-24 months
have 25-50
words

**By 6 years of
age, they can
have as many
as 14,000
words**

(Hoff, E. 2009. Language Development at an Early Age: Learning Mechanisms and Outcomes from Birth to 5 years)

14



15



16

Oral Language:

- The foundation for literacy
- Basic for reading and writing
- Gain confidence in communication
- Loban's longitudinal study

17

Make a Conscious Decision to Talk and Interact With Child

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Turn taking: Tennis Game | Be present, connect and extend learning |
| SERVE AND RETURN | Listening to the child |

18

What Happens in Community Meeting?

- Conversations
- Songs
- Sharing
- Choosing Centers
- Reading Stories
- Introducing New Information/Activity

19

What is a Language Rich Environment?

20

Language Interactions

21

Challenging Activities

22

Using Words to Express Feelings

23

Small Group: More Communications

- More chances to talk
- More ways to impact the play
- More opportunities to collaborate
- Peer tutoring possibilities

24



25



Small Group:
More Language

26



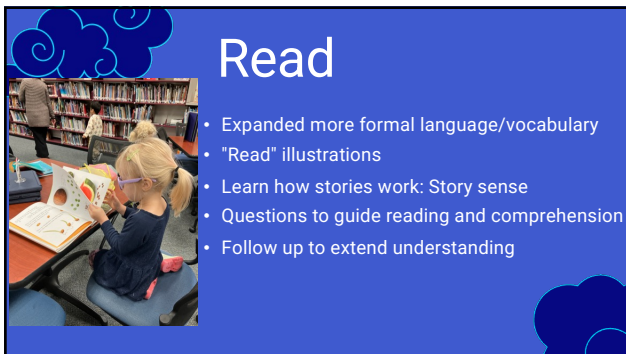
Meaningful Experiences

27



Stories Read, Told, and Sung

28




Read

- Expanded more formal language/vocabulary
- "Read" illustrations
- Learn how stories work: Story sense
- Questions to guide reading and comprehension
- Follow up to extend understanding

29



30



“ Even children who are read one book a day, will hear about 290,000 more words by age 5 than those who don't regularly read books with a parent or caregiver. ”

Jeff Grabmeir, Ohio State University

31

Why Tell Stories

- Captures interest
- Invites active participation
- Can be adjusted to different groups of children
- Focused eye contact
- Understands the story and can retell

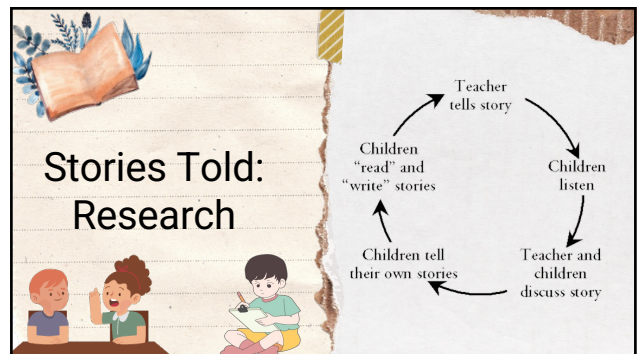
32

"We're Going on a Bear Hunt" By Michael Rosen

- Repetitive Phrases
- Invites Participation
- Encourages Action
- Conversation about the Story



33



34

Pose Questions and Give "Wait Time"



35




Literacy Everywhere!

36

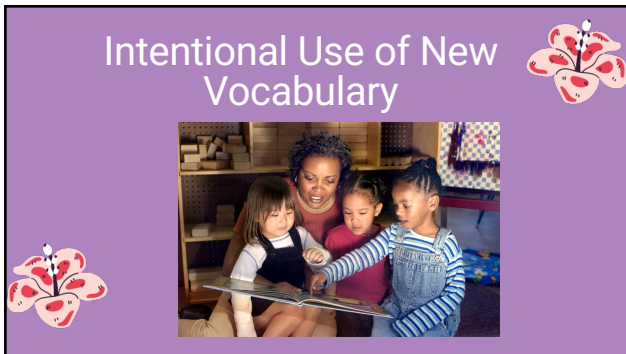


Library Center ✨

37



38



Intentional Use of New Vocabulary

39



Language Accompanying Actions

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Conversations:
Powerful
Interactions

41

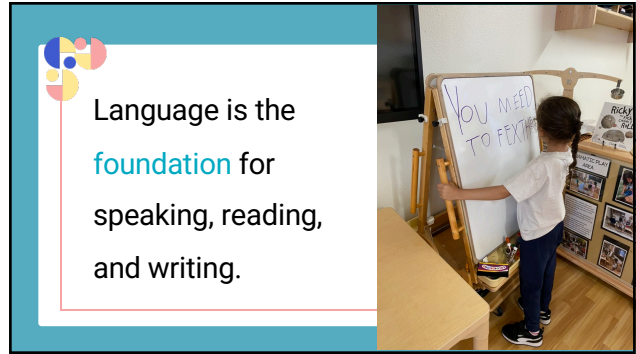


Encouraging Adults to Read and Talk
more with their Children

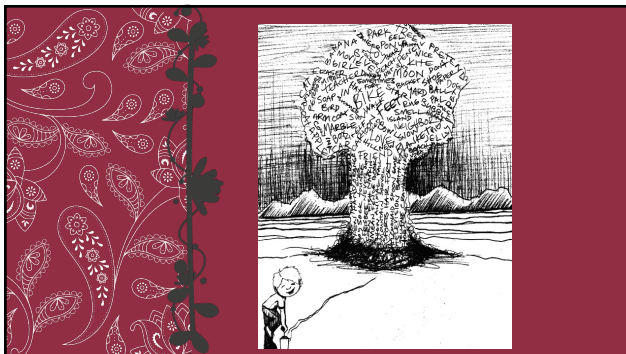
42



43



44



45



46

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47



48