



Welcome to Ryde East Public School Kindergarten Expo

Literacy Development



Helping your child develop their literacy skills



Literacy involves listening, speaking, reading, writing and spelling. It is the ability to communicate thoughts and emotions, ideas and opinions and to make meaning from spoken and written messages.



Speaking and listening



Speaking and listening skills build the foundation for your child's learning at school. These skills help a child to be able to talk with others, create friendships and actively participate in all activities at school. If you speak a language other than English at home it's important you continue to support your child to use their home language.



Talking with your child

- **Talk with your child** about a range of topics, for example things that happen each day.
- **Share stories** from your culture, your own stories and your children's stories.
- **Describe or talk about things** as they are happening. For example, "We are going to walk to school today and go past the park."
- **Listen to your child and encourage them to take turns.** Show how to listen and interact in a conversation.
- When starting a conversation or when talking with your child **ask questions** that require more than a yes or no reply. For example, "What did you do at school today?"
- Use questions that **start with how or why.** For example, "How many birds do you see in the park?"
- When asking questions **give your child time to answer.**
- **Make conversations fun.** Make up funny or nonsense rhymes, talk and sing with your child.



Communicating a message

- **Retell a story.** Talk about what happened at the beginning, middle and end of the story.
- After reading, **talk about the characters** or your child's favourite part of the book.
- **Share ideas** on what might happen when going to an event like a celebration or going to school.
After the event, talk about what happened and ask them to share their thoughts and feelings.
- Support your child to **create their own story** from their imagination. Ask questions such as, "What is the story about?" "Who is in the story?" "What happens in the story?"
- **Teach your child their full name,** address, age, birthday and phone number.
- After school ask your child how their day was and **ask for more information,** for example, "Why did you feel that way?"





Word building

- **Use describing words** when talking. If your child says, “There’s a dog.” Add description such as, “That’s a small, fluffy, white dog.”
- Build on your child’s language by **teaching them new words**. If your child says “The house is big”, you could say “Yes, the house is large” or “The house is enormous”.
- When reading with your child **talk about the words** used in books. Discuss together the meaning of the words. You might also like to find new, interesting words to talk about.
- **Practise** using new words in a sentence.
- **Make labels** for things around the house.





Reading



Children learn from being read to, reading with others and reading to themselves. Have fun reading together every day. Look for opportunities such as when you are walking to school, the book shop, the library and the supermarket. Talk about stories, the language used, words in the story, as well as the sounds of letters in words. Read books in your home language.



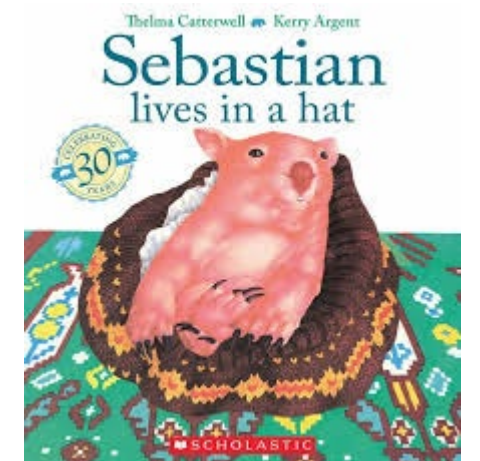
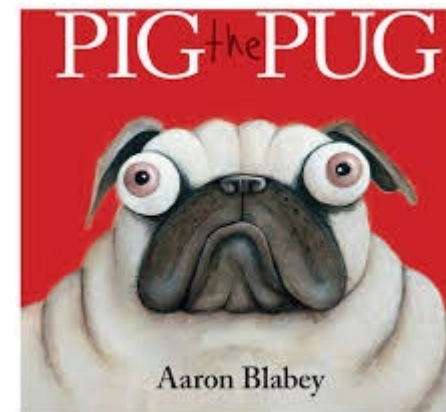
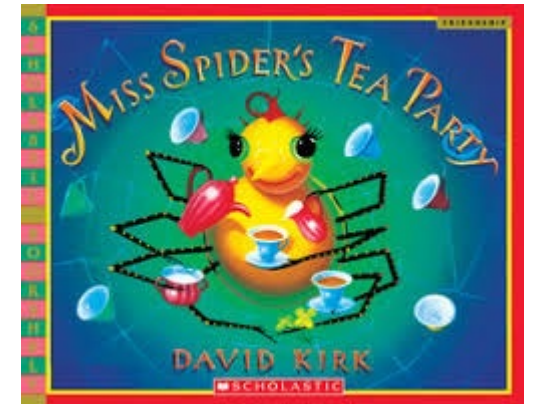
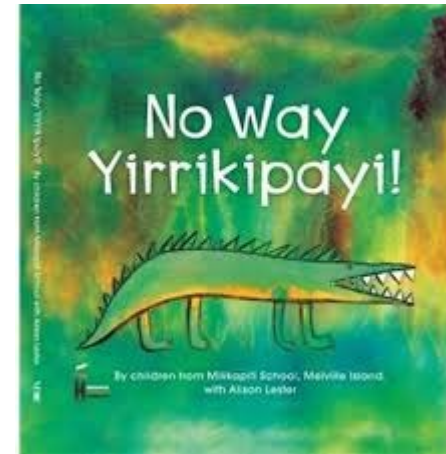
Read with your child every day

- **Make reading fun** and enjoyable. Children learn about reading by watching, copying and interacting with others.
- **Let your child choose and re-read books** they are interested in.
- **Talk about the book** before you start reading. Talk about the title and what could happen in the story.
- **Discuss the pictures** and how they add to the story.
- Whilst reading **ask your child questions** about the story such as, "What do you think might happen next?" "Why do you think that?"
- After reading **talk about the story**. Ask questions such as, "Which part of the story did you like best?" or "What was exciting, funny or sad in the story?"
- **Take turns at reading** favourite stories with brothers, sisters or friends.
- **Choose a variety of reading materials** such as newspapers, magazines, posters, street signs, recipes and shopping lists.



Having fun with reading, language and words

- **Choose books that have rhymes or riddles** in them.
- **Talk about rhyming words.** Cat, hat, sat, bat are all examples of words that rhyme because they sound the same at the end.
- **Play with rhyming words** and play rhyming games. Make silly rhyming sentences such as, “Have you ever seen a snail deliver the mail?”





Play with the sounds of letters

- **Have fun with the sound of letters.** Make up silly sentences using words that start with the same sound such as, “Many mice munching meatballs.”
- Make words with letters cut out of magazines, or written on post-it notes and **break the word into sounds**, for example, b-a-t. Then say the word again.
- When you are reading to your child, ask them to point to and **say the sounds they know.**
- **Play sound games** with your child’s name. Ask questions such as, “What sound does your name start with?” “Is it the same sound at the beginning of dad?”





Drawing and writing



Encourage your child to draw and write about interesting things. Ask your child to talk about their drawings, and writing. Be interested in their stories and how they have chosen to draw or write them.



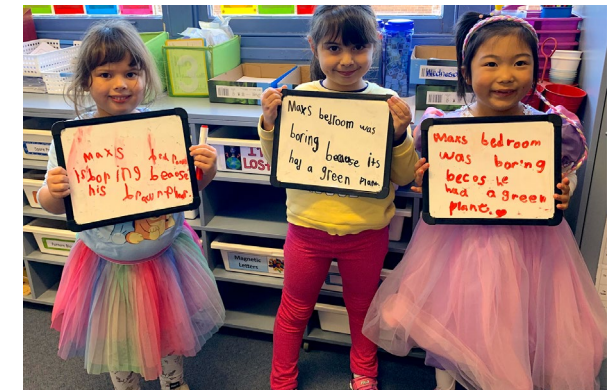
Write every day

- **Have fun with drawing and writing.** Ask your child to draw or write about things they like to do, make or play.
- **Encourage your child to talk about their writing.** This could include talking about their scribbles, drawings, letters or words.
- **Use different materials** to draw and write with such as chalk, paper and pencils, markers, pens and keyboards.
- Ask your child to **write their name**. Your child could also attempt to write the names of other people who are important to them.
- While your child is writing or drawing **talk about the picture and the sounds** of the letters that he or she is attempting to write.
- **Encourage your child to use their imagination** and create stories. They could create a storybook by drawing pictures and writing words for the story.
- Support your child to **write messages in their home language**.



Drawing and writing for a purpose

- Encourage your child to draw or write a shopping list, or about their favourite person in the family, or their favourite book.
- Create a song or a poem and write the words or draw a picture to go with the song or poem.
- Ask your child to describe what they are drawing or writing about as they are creating it.
- Encourage them to write a letter to a friend or someone in the family about something interesting, funny or exciting that happened.
- Have a booklet, journal or diary that your child can write or draw in daily.
- Create a card or an invite for a celebration or a special event.



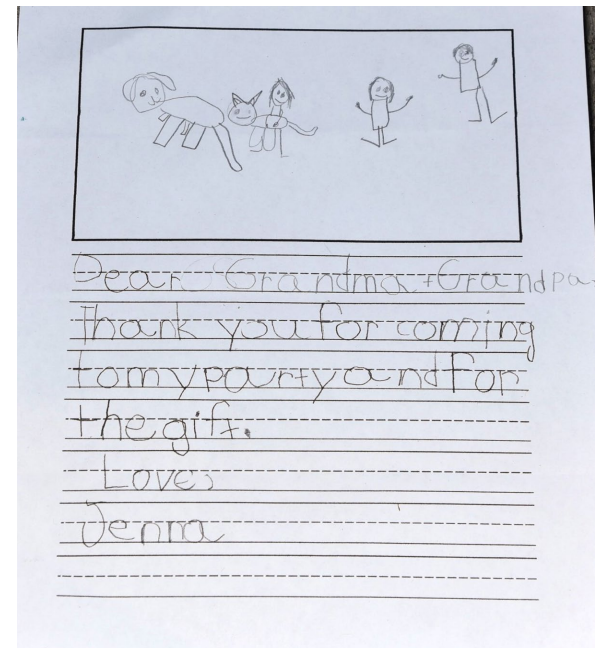


Talk about messages

- Ask your child to create a message they would like to send. It could be a poster such as, "Beware of the dog", or a letter to their teacher about the things they like to do.
- Use everyday words that are part of your child's culture, experience and interests.
- Talk about stories or letters that your child has written or that you read together.
- When talking, support your child to talk in sentences using a variety of words.



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Enrol Now

Enrolments are open!

Contact our school office via phone or email to arrange a **COVID safe** completion of enrolment papers.

🏠 12 Twin Road, North Ryde

☎ (02) 9878 3681

✉ rydeeast-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au