

December Title One Parent Capacity Meeting

Literacy and Numeracy at Home for the
Holidays



Literacy at Home

- Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing are all components of Literacy
- Families can enhance literacy through family holiday activities



Speaking & Listening

- Use the time that you spend decorating the tree or visiting with family to tell your stories of past Christmases.
- Children can learn how stories are structured through what you say to them. You are teaching them how to use language to communicate.
- Ask your child open ended questions or give them prompts that will get them talking.
 - Rather than starting with “How was...”
 - Say “Tell me about...”
 - Encourage your child to use complete sentences
 - Ask follow-up questions (For example, if your child says, “The party was fun.” follow up with “What did you do that was fun?”)
- Students that can *tell* their stories, can more easily *write* their stories.



Reading

- Let your child see you read. Not just books and magazines, but everything you read!
 - Especially with younger children, point out street signs as you are driving and read them aloud.
 - Read the labels of items in the grocery store.
 - Read the recipe when you are cooking or making those special Christmas cookies!
- For older children, have them read to you. Help them when they get stuck and praise their efforts.



Writing

- Let your children see you write.
- Let little ones use writing materials even if they are at the scribble and draw stage.
 - Sending out Christmas cards? Have your little one trace his/her hand on the card.
 - Let them make a shopping list, or a letter to Santa. They can add pictures.
- Give kids old envelopes or greeting cards so they can copy the words and practice their writing.
- Have older children write shopping lists for you
- After Christmas, have children write thank you letters for the gifts they received.

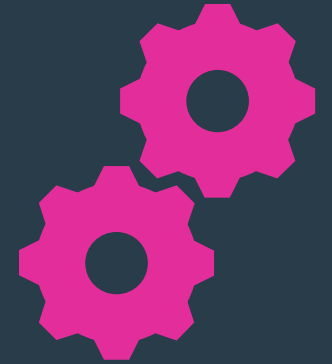


Numeracy at Home

- Numeracy includes counting, sorting, looking for patterns, shapes (2-D and 3-D), problem solving, telling time, and using data



Add math to your day



Count

- Add counting to your everyday activities
 - When you fold the laundry, have your child count how many socks, towels, etc.
 - Pair the socks and count by 2's
 - Count coins and practice counting by 5's, and 10's

Play

- Play board games
 - Count dots on dice until children recognize them instantly
 - Count the spaces moved forward and backward

- Create your own story problems for what you are doing
 - Example: Have your child count how many people are coming for dinner and decide how many more plates are needed on the table.

Kitchen Math

- Talk about the measurements in a recipe
 - Challenge your child to find out how many cups are in a quart (or some other conversion) using water and containers
 - The real-world practice helps it make sense!
- Point out the fractions
 - Compare the sizes of measuring spoons and scoops
 - Have your child put the scoops in order to practice comparing fractions
- Double or Halve a recipe
 - Real-world application for multiplying or dividing whole numbers, fractions, and/or mixed numbers
- Time problems
 - Work on telling time and elapsed time problems when you are cooking. (Example: The time is 9:00 and the cookies need to bake for 12 minutes. What time will they be ready?)



Enjoy the Holidays with your Children

- Never forget that you are your child's first teacher.
- What you do and say matters.
- When you show your children how you use literacy and numeracy in everyday life, it helps them make connections that make them more successful in school.

