



# THE MORE WE READ TOGETHER

## IMPORTANCE OF EARLY LITERACY

### **More is Better. Start Early. Talk. Read. Sing.**

It is never too early to introduce your child to books. But literacy is more than books. Language and literacy skills begin at birth through everyday loving interactions, such as sharing books, telling stories, singing songs, and talking to one another. The simple act of talking to your young child and telling them about your day, their environment, or telling them a story builds brain connections. Research shows that children who hear the largest number of words before age four go on to perform better in school. Hearing words from a television or electronic device does not produce the same positive results as reading and talking with another human being. Even before a child can speak or read, literacy is developing. How much a parent talks and interacts with a child has a big impact on the child's success in school and life.



Supporting, promoting, and strengthening the profession of licensed family childcare thereby enriching the lives of providers, children, families, and communities.

[www.mccpin.org](http://www.mccpin.org)

**A language-rich environment builds your child's brain. Talk. Read. Sing. Every Day.**

**Reading the same book again, and again, and again is okay.**

**85% of brain development happens by age 3.**

**Books contain a larger variety of words than children's TV programming.**

**Having books available promotes reading ability.**

### **RESOURCES**

[tmwcenter.uchicago.edu](http://tmwcenter.uchicago.edu)

[Healthychildren.org](http://Healthychildren.org)

[Literacyprojectfoundation.org](http://Literacyprojectfoundation.org)

[Zerothreeto.org](http://Zerothreeto.org)