

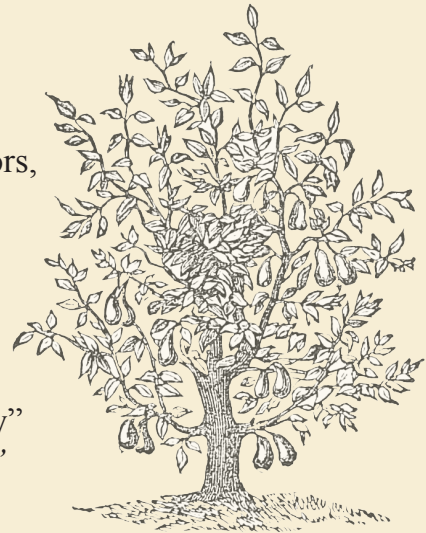
The WONDER CABINET WISDOM

Emergent Literacy - The Forest Area

Listening, speaking, acting and reading all help children develop early language and literacy skills.

Ways to develop your child's literacy skills:

- * **Read books and have conversations:** Reading and talking with a child, even before they can speak, will help them become better thinkers, better communicators, and better readers.
- * **Point and name what you see in pictures:** Naming objects that children see in pictures helps them learn new words.
- * **Ask questions:** For preschoolers, ask “what” and “why” questions such as, “*Why is the character feeling sad?*” or “*What do you think will happen next?*”
- * **Sing and rhyme words:** Playing with sounds and syllables while singing and rhyming helps children learn the flow of language.



Why is this important?

Learning to read involves the understanding that symbols, such as words and pictures, represent real things, an essential life skill that helps children become better communicators. Research shows that spending daily quality time reading and talking back and forth with your child is essential for their brain development.

Adapted from *Mind in the Making: The Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs* by Dr. Ellen Galinsky
www.mindinthemaking.org

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