Family Literacy Routines

Support your child's language and literacy learning in just 5 minutes a day using these suggested routines. Use the reflection box to let us know how it went and what you learned about your child.

3-5

Icons at the bottom of each routine indicate:

- Use English
- Use your home language(s)
- Use English and your Home Language(s)

Tell us how we did!

Daily Care Routines

- Before bed, let's do a **talk, read, write activity**. Pick any book you have at home. Read the cover and invite your child to talk about what they know about the topic.
- Then read one page of the book together. Now, ask your child to identify a fact, list events and write opinions about what they read.

Homework Routines

- This week, create a **family literacy notebook** with scrap paper to include writing activities you create at home.
- Have your child divide the notebook into sections. Ask them to write labels for the different sections according to each subject/class they are taking in school now.

Mealtime Routines

- Let's talk about what's on our plates. Have your child discuss if they have **fruits, vegetables, grains, or protein.**
- Use the family literacy notebook to write sentences that describe what's on their plate. Ex.: A banana is a fruit. Broccoli is a ___. Rice is a ___. Chicken is a protein food.

Play and Leisure Routines

- Talk about your **favorite TV show** or movie. Take out the family literacy notebook.
- Ask the child to write 3 reasons why the family should watch the show. Use sentence starters:
  - 'I believe that _____.'
  - 'In my opinion, _____.'
  - 'By watching this, we can _____.'

Outside Routines

- Ask your child to **write a list** of groceries you need before going to the store.
- Have them organize the food into 5 different categories: fruits, vegetables, grains, protein, and dairy. At the store, ask the child to pick 2 items from each category and cross them off the list.

Walking, Driving & Bus Routines

- Print a map of your city/town and bring it for the bus or car ride. Use your phone as an alternative.
- Have your child look at the map. As you move, ask questions about where you are: 'What buildings do we have on the left/right?' 'Have we been there before?' 'Where are we going next?'

Anytime!

- Have the entire family participate in **a chain personal story** (each section is written by a different author picking up where the previous one left off).
- Have your child start the story. Then others add a sentence to the story until the end. Use sentence starters such as: I will never forget the time when_____. It all began when____. Later___.

Reflection: After trying out the routines this week, answer the following questions:

What went well with the activities you tried this week with your child?

_____

What did you learn about your child?

_____

ALLOhio

Family Literacy Routines

Support your child's language and literacy learning in just 5 minutes a day using these suggested routines. Use the reflection box to let us know how it went and what you learned about your child.

3-5

Icons at the bottom of each routine indicate:

- Use English
- Use your home language(s)
- Use English and your Home Language(s)

Tell us how we did!

Daily Care Routines

- Grab any book or story your child has read before.
- Ask your child to identify two parts of a story: the **plot and the setting**. The plot describes the **"what"** of the story. It lets the reader know what's happening.The setting is the physical location and point in time in which your plot takes place.

Homework Routines

- Before doing homework, have your child write notes on their **family literacy notebook** about what they need to do for homework.
- Have them write the notes in your home language. This will help them plan, monitor and process academic language learning better.

Mealtime Routines

- In the family literacy notebook, write the sections of a recipe: title, description, preparation and cooking time, ingredients, and steps.
- Have the child **write** the recipe before or after dinner time. Add a recipe every week and have fun.

Play and Leisure Routines

- Play a **cause and effect game.** Write 5 sentences on cutout paper that indicate a **cause** (e.g. I ate too much icecream)
- Have your child write 5 sentences that indicate **effects** (e.g. My tummy hurts. Have them match the causes with the effects).

Outside Routines

- If your child goes to the park with friends today, give them a piece of paper and a pen.
- Ask them **to describe** using one sentence what they see, who they play with, and what they do. Have them draw pictures that represent those descriptions when they come home.

Walking, Driving & Bus Routines

- On the ride home, discuss causes and effects of different events.
- Ask questions such as: If you left an ice cube on the hot sidewalk during the summer, what would happen? If you never brushed your teeth, what would happen?

Anytime!

- Watch this short book trailer on You tube "When stars are scattered" https://shorturl.at/djqvy Set the speed to 0.75 on YouTube.
- This book is **a novel** (a piece of long narrative). Have your child **write 3 sentences** inventing the rest of the novel.

Reflection: After trying out the routines this week, answer the following questions:

What went well with the activities you tried this week with your child?

ALLOhio

What did you learn about your child?

Family Literacy Routines

Support your child's language and literacy learning in just 5 minutes a day using these suggested routines. Use the reflection box to let us know how it went and what you learned about your child.

3-5

Icons at the bottom of each routine indicate:

- Use English
- Use your home language(s)
- Use English and your Home Language(s)

Tell us how we did!

Daily Care Routines

- Have your child look at some personal care products you use at home (e.g. toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, lotion)
- Ask them to see if those products have instructions in English and other languages. Are the letters the same in both languages? Is there any word they know in that language?

Homework Routines

- Discuss what the topic for today's homework is. Write sentences related to that topic on cards and put them in random order. Ask the child to arrange the sentences into a complete paragraph.
- Pick one sentence and have them write a paragraph about the topic related to that specific sentence.

Mealtime Routines

- While you cook, ask your child to wash the vegetables or fruits.
- Discuss how **different/similar** is washing the dishes from washing vegetables. Have them write those differences. Help your child by asking questions such as: Do we use soap or baking soda? Do we use a sponge/brush?

Play and Leisure Routines

- Find words in English and your home language that **sound similar**. Create a card with those words. (e.g. the word See in English sounds like the word Si in Spanish. Their meanings are different).
- Say the words and see if your child can differentiate what word you are saying. Have them write sentences using those words.

Outside Routines

- Have your child write Ramadan, Eid or Christmas cards. Some sentence starters can be:
  - May you_____.
  - Wishing you_____.
  - Sending you_____.
  - Happy _____.
- Visit your local church/mosque and have your child give the cards away.

Walking, Driving & Bus Routines

- While driving or riding the bus, discuss the names of buildings you see around.
- Ask your child if they know the names in their home language. For example, school is escuela in Spanish. Hospital is 病院 (byoin) in Japanese. What else do you see?

Anytime!

- Find words that rhyme in English, such as cook - book, play - clay, and time - slime.
- Have your child come up with more words that rhyme with the words above. After you have a list, ask them to write **a short poem** (e.g., Time flies when you play with slime).

Reflection: After trying out the routines this week, answer the following questions:

What went well with the activities you tried this week with your child?

_____

What did you learn about your child?

_____

Family Literacy Routines

Support your child's language and literacy learning in just 5 minutes a day using these suggested routines. Use the reflection box to let us know how it went and what you learned about your child.

3-5

Icons at the bottom of each routine indicate:

- Use English
- Use your home language
- Use English and your Home Language(s)

Tell us how we did!

Daily Care Routines

- Involve your child in doing laundry today. Have them do all the steps to wash and put clothes away.
- Have them **write labels** to organize their clothes. Discuss where clothes should go. Does this go in the linen closet? Does it go in the drawers?

Homework Routines

- Choose a topic related to your child's homework, such as plant structures, including roots, leaves, stems, fruits, flowers, and seeds.
- Use Google to find more information related to the topic. Ask questions about the reading using six question words (i.e., who, what, why, when, where, how).

Mealtime Routines

- Today, bring paper and pens to the dinning table.
- Instead of talking, you and your family will **write** whatever you want to say to one another. Use your home language or English. Just have fun! Add conversation punctuations when needed sucha as exclamation marks (!), quotations (“), commas (,).

Play and Leisure Routines

- Do you have sayings in your home language that have an equivalent in English? For example, in Spanish A taste of his own medicine means “Estar probando su propia medicina”
- Have your child write sayings in English or their home language and make other family members find the translation.

Outside Routines

- When your child is outside playing with other kids, bring paper and pens to play **a sentence stretching game**.
- One person writes a sentence; the next person changes the last word in the sentence and add a new word. Ex.: I like going to the park. Next person: I like going to school with...

Walking, Driving & Bus Routines

- While driving or riding the bus, talk about books or shows you have recently read/watched together.
- Have your child invent a new ending to the book or show. What would have happened if_____? Let them use their imagination and have fun!

Anytime!

- Watch the first 2 minutes of “Island Born” read aloud (www.youtube.com/watch?v=y8i2nitmto4).
- **Discuss** why Lola didn't know what to do with homework. Have them **write** the answer. Help them by providing a **sentence stem**: Based on the passage, I can infer that... for example...

Reflection: After trying out the routines this week, answer the following questions:

What went well with the activities you tried this week with your child?

_____

What did you learn about your child?

_____

ALLOhio

Family Literacy Routines

Support your child's language and literacy learning in just 5 minutes a day using these suggested routines. Use the reflection box to let us know how it went and what you learned about your child.

3-5

Icons at the bottom of each routine indicate:

ENG Use English

A Use your home language

Hi! 嗨 Hola! Use English and your Home Language(s)

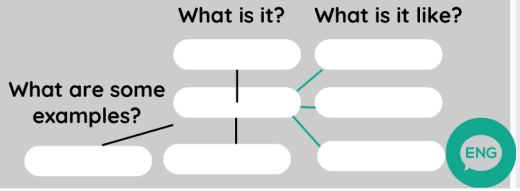
Tell us how we did!

Daily Care Routines

- Write your **own bedtime story** with your child.
- Present your child with a series of questions in your home language and allow them to shape the story in English.

Homework Routines

- While doing homework, choose any topic your child is reading about in school.
- Have your child write **a concept definition map** of the topic:



Mealtime Routines

- Do you have a family meal that you make on special occasions? Think about what that could be.
- Tell your child the story behind that recipe. Have them write out the instructions and the ingredients so you can both cook it next time.

Play and Leisure Routines

- Play a **rebus game**. Take the lyrics of a song and substitute **verbs** (action words) with an image that represents the action.
- Have your child read the lyrics and **write words** in place of drawings. For example, can be **drive/driving**. Listen to the song and see how many words they got.

Outside Routines

- Give your child chalks when going outside.
- Ask them to draw a story on the sidewalk. Instead of writing, your child will draw pictures that represent a sequence of events in their story. Have them tell you the story after they finish drawing.

Walking, Driving & Bus Routines

- On the ride from school, have your child **write a to-do list** of what they need to do when they get home.
- Have them use signal words in English: First____ next_____ then_____ later_____ Finally.

Anytime!

- Pick a short story in your home language or English from www.uniteforliteracy.com
- Ask your child to write a different ending to the story.

Reflection: After trying out the routines this week, answer the following questions:

What went well with the activities you tried this week with your child?

_____

What did you learn about your child?

_____