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.

Pre-K

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

- Say what you are doing during different routines (e.g., "It is time to brush our teeth.").
- Invite your child to identify the first sound in specific words (e.g., teeth) and "write" the letter that has that sound with materials that are part of the routine (e.g., hairbrush or toothbrush to make the letters in the air, use fingers to make the letters in the bath water).

Homework Routines

- Reread 1 sentence from a story. Have your child say the sentence. Count the words. Draw lines for each word. Say first word and have your child identify and write the first sound in the word. Help spell and write the remaining letters in the word.
- Have your child orally answer questions from the story. Help your child find words in the story to answer the questions. Identifies first sound in words as they write or trace answer.

Mealtime Routines

- Talk about your meal (e.g., "We drink milk."). Ask your child to repeat the sentence back to you. Invite your child to identify the first sound they hear in each word.
- Draw the letters that have these sounds with your spoon or fork.

Play and Leisure Routines

- Say the name of an object. Ask your child to say it back.
- Then identify the first sound in the word with your child as you write the word on paper.

Outside Routines

- Say a sentence about what you see. Ask your child to repeat the sentence and jump or stomp as they say each word.
- Ask your child to identify the first sound in each word and make the letter in the sand, dirt, or using chalk on the sidewalk or driveway. You can say the other sounds and write them too.

Walking, Driving & Bus Routines

- Sing your child's favorite song. Pause after a few lyrics and ask them to say that lyric back with you. Invite them to clap as they say each word.
- See if they can help you say the first sound they hear in each word and ask them to make the letter for that sound with their hands.

Anytime!

- Take turns saying what you see (e.g., "I see a dog."). Come up with a movement (e.g., tip toe, jump, nod, march, flap) that you will do each time you say a word.
- Invite your child to identify the first sound in each word, and as they say the sound, use your fingers to draw the letter that has that sound.

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.

Pre-K

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

- Talk about the different purposes of reading. Sometimes an author wants to provide instructions, tell a story or inform about a topic.
- Create a list together identifying your daily routines. Invite your child to write some words and draw pictures. Ask questions about whether the list provides instructions, information or tell a story.

Homework Routines

- Find books or other forms of reading materials (e.g., newspapers, magazines, lists, food packages) from your home. Take a look at these reading materials with your child.
- Discuss which ones are providing instructions; which ones are telling you a story or describing something. Discuss why.

Mealtime Routines

- Before cooking, write out a recipe to prepare something simple. Ask your child to draw pictures of the steps. Together, read the steps and complete them.
- Discuss why a recipe provides instructions. Discuss what would happen if you did not have a recipe.

Play and Leisure Routines

- Hide a household object (e.g., stuffed animal) in the home and take turns providing steps on how to find it (first go to mom's room, then look under the bed).
- Discuss whether the steps you shared were instructions or a story and why (e.g., they were instructions because they told us how to find the object).

Outside Routines

- Before going outside, talk about what your family rules are for outside play.
- Discuss whether those are instructions or a story and why (e.g., those are instructions because they tell us what to do to stay safe.).

Walking, Driving & Bus Routines

- Talk about how you get to everyday places (e.g., school).
- Invite your child to create a map or draw things you see on your way to that place (e.g., store, field, flag). You can ask your child to "write" labels of what they draw.

Anytime!

- Share a family story with your child from when you were little.
- Ask your child to draw pictures for the story you are telling them. Help them trace words to label the pictures.

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.

Pre-K

Icons at the bottom of each routine indicate:

ENG Use English

Use your home language(s)

Use English and your Home Language(s)

Tell us how we did!

Daily Care Routines

- Pick a letter. Show your child the letter, make the sound, name what it is, and ask them to repeat it back to you. Invite your child to write the letter on a paper repeating the sound and name for the letter.
- Point out where you see that letter during your morning routine (e.g., toothpaste tube, cereal box).

Homework Routines

- Write down several words that start with different letters.
- Name a letter, write and show your child the letter, and ask your child to circle or use highlighters to highlight all the words that start with that letter (e.g., hat, help, hot, hand). Read through the words with your child. Invite your child to write the letter.

Mealtime Routines

- Ask your child to gather household snacks or the ingredients needed to make their favorite snack.
- Have them tell you the process to prepare their snack (e.g., get a spoon). Point out the letters, their names, and the sounds they. make on food packages (e.g. Peanut butter).

Play and Leisure Routines

- Write letters on cutout paper and show it to your child. Name the letter and its sound.
- Hide the letters around the house. See if your child can find all of the letters. Once they find the letters, ask them to name it and make the sound. Help them write words that have those letters and sounds.

Outside Routines

- Using chalk write letters on the sidewalk. Write and name the letter (e.g., "This is B", "What letter is this?").
- Ask your child to jump on the letters while they name them. Invite your child to write other letters for you to jump on.

Walking, Driving & Bus Routines

- Focus on an alphabet letter. See how many times you can find that letter as you walk, drive or ride the bus.
- Add other letters as your child is easily naming, finding, and making the letter sound.

Anytime!

- Create a "letter book" with your child (e.g., A book, B book, C book).
- On each page, ask your child to write the letter and draw a picture of something that starts with that letter. You can help your child write the word, and they can write the letter and/or underline the letter in the word.

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.

Pre-K

Icons at the bottom of each routine indicate:

ENG Use English

Use your home language(s)

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

Tell us how we did!

Daily Care Routines

- During bath time, use bath crayons to write letters or make letters in the water with you and your child's finger, or by squeezing soap to make the letter on their hand.
- Identify the letter name. What sound does the letter represent? Invite your child to name the letter and make the letter sound.

Homework Routines

- Read magazines, books, or other written materials with your child. Point out a letter they are focusing on in school. Is it uppercase or lowercase? What sound does it make?
- As you read, look for other letters in the reading materials and pictures of items that start with that letter sound.

Mealtime Routines

- Identify the different first letters/sounds in each of the items you are eating (e.g., peas starts with the p sound). Identify the letter name that makes that sound.
- Take turns identifying food items, letter sounds, and the names of the letters that make those sounds.

Play and Leisure Routines

- Create letters with the materials you are playing with (e.g., blocks, legos, markers). Invite your child to identify what letter sound and letter name it is.
- Identify the letter sound and name together. Take turns creating letters and identifying the names and sounds.

Outside Routines

- Write letters in a sandbox or with chalk on pavement. Write the upper and lower case letters.
- Have your child Identify the letter name and sound. You may need to support them by writing the letter, saying the name, or letter sound. Invite your child to draw things that start with that sound with you.

Walking, Driving & Bus Routines

- As you walk or drive, sing the ABC song. Play a game by pausing on one of the letters.
- See if you can find that letter around you. When you see it or your child sees it, point it out. Identify what sound it makes. Repeat the ABC song and start again.

Anytime!

- Watch the video **"The animal alphabet"** on the PBS Youtube channel (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbXHfdzL2uk)
- Follow along using the transcript and the subtitles on Youtube.

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

Pre-K

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.

Icons at the bottom of each routine indicate:

- ENG — Use English
- A — Use your home language(s)
- Hi! 嗨 Hola! — Use English and your Home Language(s)

Tell us how we did!

Daily Care Routines

- As you hold up common materials that contain letters or words, give your child the opportunity to tell you what it is (e.g., toothpaste, soap).
- Ask your child how they knew what that was. They might talk about the letters or pictures they see on the container matching the words.

Homework Routines

- Cut out pictures of common places in the community and common materials you use (books, restaurants, stores, foods). Place them on a table or in a small picture album.
- Ask your child to identify what each picture is (e.g., McDonalds, Lowes, Reeses). Invite your child to create labels for each of the pictures

Mealtime Routines

- Create a menu made of pictures (e.g., picture of eggs, noodles).
- Ask your child to finish the menu by writing the name of the items to go with the pictures. Have them circle what they would like to have for lunch or breakfast. Their "writing" may look like lines or letters depending on where they are in their development.

Play and Leisure Routines

- Hide different pictures that symbolize items and places your child is familiar with.
- Play a game where you try to find pictures that solve a clue (e.g., "This is a place you like to eat."). When your child finds the picture, ask them what it is and how they know. Have them create a list of the items they found.

Outside Routines

- Go check the mail with your child. Show your child the envelope and ask them questions like who do they think the letter is for?
- Ask how they know. Give your child the opportunity to ask you questions about the mail. Explain who you think it is from and how you know and why.

Walking, Driving & Bus Routines

- Point out different signs that contain symbols (e.g., "No swimming", stop signs).
- Ask your child what they think the sign says and how they know. Invite your child to create different signs with their bodies or through their drawing and writing (e.g., X with arms means no). Discuss what those signs mean.

Anytime!

- Read books with repeated lines (e.g., The Hungry Caterpillar, Brown Bear Brown Bear, The Napping House).
- As you come to the repeated line in the book, point to the words and have your child read that part of the book.

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?

_____