

Family Time: Family Literacy

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What is family literacy?

Family literacy is reading together and using reading skills to learn. These activities can accomplish several things:

- Parents and children being together
- Develop and improve reading skills
- Develop a foundation for lifelong learning

Reading together provides opportunities to combine the critical issues of adult basic skills for parents with educational development in children. Improving literacy skills for all family members can improve educational opportunities for all families. Family activities that promote literacy include enjoying a storybook together, playing word games, sharing day to day task, using a recipe, and many more activities.

Why is family literacy important?

Literacy skills are essential to every aspect of life: school, job, family, church, community and many more components. Reading together as a parent and child builds skills for reading, as well as communication between parents and children. Reading together will improve children's listening, reading, vocabulary, language skills, and development of imagination and creativity. By encouraging children to read, there is a positive impact on language development, future success in school, and well-being throughout life. Reading together is important for adults continue exercise their reading abilities at all stages of their lives.

Activities for Literacy

Child age 0-3 years

Books with pictures to identify colors and objects
Book with multiple languages
Ask child what is in picture: animal, tree, water, color

Time invested: five to ten minutes

Child age 0-3 years

Chapter books - read one chapter at a time
Able to learn different languages through reading
Playing word games /learning new words

Time invested: ten to fifteen minutes

Child age 7-10 years

Read recipe together to prepare dish or meal
Read directions to operate small appliance
Ask questions regarding books, magazines and or articles

Time invested: fifteen to thirty minutes

4 components

Adult education: Parent literacy training that leads to economic self sufficiency

Children's education: Age-appropriate education to prepare children for success in school and life experiences

Parent and child together (PACT): Interactive activate between parents and their children

Parent time: Training for parents to be the primary teacher for their children and full partners in the education of their children

For further information:

Contact the University of Guam, Cooperative Extension and Outreach at 735-2080 for help or more information. Additional publications can be found on our website at: uog.edu/extension/publications.

References

https://wvde.state.wv.us/abe/file-cabinet/Family_Literacy.pdf

<https://abclifeliteracy.ca/family-literacy-fact-sheet>

<https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000001618/en-ca/files/page/literacy-toolkits-and-guides/community-literacy-toolkit/Community-Literacy-Toolkit.pdf>

<https://Improving Literacy Brief for Parents and Families/National Center on Improving Literacy.org>

<https://Supporting Your Child's Literacy Development at Home /National Center on Improving Literacy.org>

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