

Beyond Storytime

Creative Ways to Support Early Literacy
in the Children's Department and the Home



Melissa Depper

Children's Librarian, Storytime Trainer, Early Literacy Advocate



Objectives

Articulate rationales for expanding support for early literacy beyond storytime

Recognize the early literacy components of existing programs and services for children and their caregivers

Use a “remixing” brainstorming strategy to identify new early learning opportunities at your library



ECRR

Reading	Print Motivation
Writing	Print Awareness
Singing	Letter Knowledge
Talking	Phonological Awareness
Playing	Vocabulary
	Narrative Skills



ECRR Resources

Every Child Ready to Read
<http://everychildreadytoread.org>

Ohio Ready to Read
Early Literacy Crosswalk
<https://ohelcrosswalk.wikispaces.com/Ohio+Early+Literacy+Crosswalk>

Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy
<http://www.clel.org>



STORY TIME

today

10:15

Why go “beyond storytime”?

Beyond Storytime



Beyond Storytime

- Because we're doing a great job



Beyond Storytime

- Because we're doing a great job
- Because not all families can or want to attend storytimes



Beyond Storytime

- Because we're doing a great job
- Because not all families can or want to attend storytimes
- Because not all caregivers can or want to attend adults-only literacy programs



Beyond Storytime

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- Because not all families can or want to attend storytimes
- Because not all caregivers can or want to attend adults-only literacy programs
- Because we want the whole library to serve the whole child



Pockets of Play

- What can we do to make it easier for families to read, write, sing, talk, and play together, every day?
- Little Free Libraries
<http://littlefreelibrary.org/>
- Center for Active Design
<http://centerforactivedesign.org>
- For Family-Friendly Cities, Build Play Beyond the Playground
by Rachel Dovey | Next City
<http://nextcity.org/daily/entry/playgrounds-public-transportation-cities-family-friendly>



Missions & Literacy

- Support of early literacy is critical to the success of library missions



Missions & Literacy

- Support of early literacy is critical to the success of library missions
- Advocate for programs and services in the language of missions & goal statements



Missions & Literacy

- Support of early literacy is critical to the success of library missions
- Advocate for programs and services in the language of missions & goal statements
- Prioritize new programs and services based on the library's strategic direction



Denver (CO) Public Library

The Denver Public Library connects people with information, ideas and experiences to provide enjoyment, enrich lives and strengthen our community.

Cuyahoga County (OH) Public Library

At Cuyahoga County Public Library we are committed to our mission of being at the center of community life by creating an environment where reading, lifelong learning and civic engagement thrive.

The Collingswood (NJ) Public Library

The Collingswood Public Library serves the residents of the Borough of Collingswood by providing access to a broad range of information and ideas. Founded in 1910 the Library is a center for lifelong learning for patrons of all ages, backgrounds and interests. The Library's collections and services reflect the informational, educational and cultural needs of the community.

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people of all ages

staff expertise

opportunities to explore

curious minds

community connections

equal access

enthusiastic readers

inspiration

creating more able learners

strengthening the economic vitality of our region

connect with other organizations

AAP & Literacy

- First policy statement on literacy promotion
- Doctors are to promote reading with children at well child checkups and provide ideas for developmentally appropriate reading activities
- The “Five Rs” of early learning
 - Reading
 - Rhyming
 - Routines
 - Rewards
 - Relationships





You're already rocking early literacy

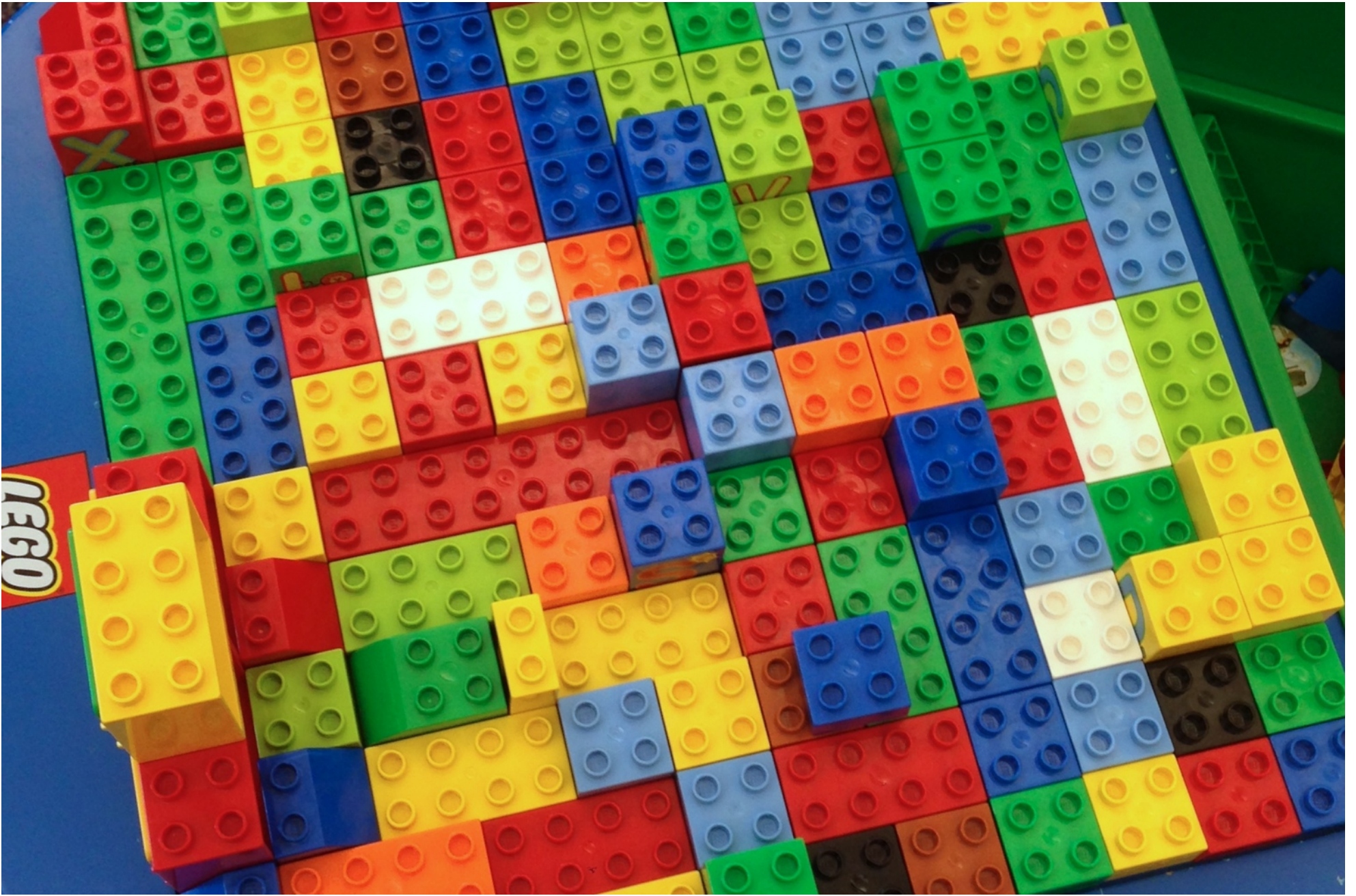


You're already rocking early literacy

two question poll:

what practices (reading, writing, singing, talking, playing) are you already supporting well at your library?

What practice is the hardest for you to support?



Putting the next piece in place

Blocks for Free Play

Toddlers | Preschool | Families
Playing | Writing | Talking
Letter Knowledge | Narrative Skills
Spaces

Provide a basket or box of blocks for children and families to play with during their library visits

Creative Play at the Library

by Abby Johnson

<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2010/10/creative-play-at-the-library/>



Storywalk

Families

Reading

Print Awareness | Print Motivation

Narrative Skills

Partners | Outreach

A storywalk puts the pages of a book along a path or in a space in an accessible public outdoors location

Thinking Outside the Book

by Amy Koester

<http://showmelibrarian.blogspot.com/2013/06/thinking-outside-book-partnering-to.html>



Mirror Play

Toddlers | Preschool

Playing | Talking

Print Awareness | Vocabulary

Spaces

Mirrors and cartoon clip art with emotion clip art at the circulation desk for children to enjoy while adults are checking out materials

Facelift

by Anna Haase Krueger

<http://www.futurelibrariansuperhero.com/2013/11/facelift.html>



Literacy Spot

Toddlers | Preschool

Talking

Print Awareness | Vocabulary

Letter Knowledge

Spaces

Use shelving endcaps to post mini-activities for children to try and talk about

Early Literacy Spots in the Wild

by Christina Jones

<http://kmatters0to6.wordpress.com/2013/03/19/early-literacy-spots-in-the-wild/>



Picture Show

Preschool

Writing | Talking

Print Awareness | Narrative Skills

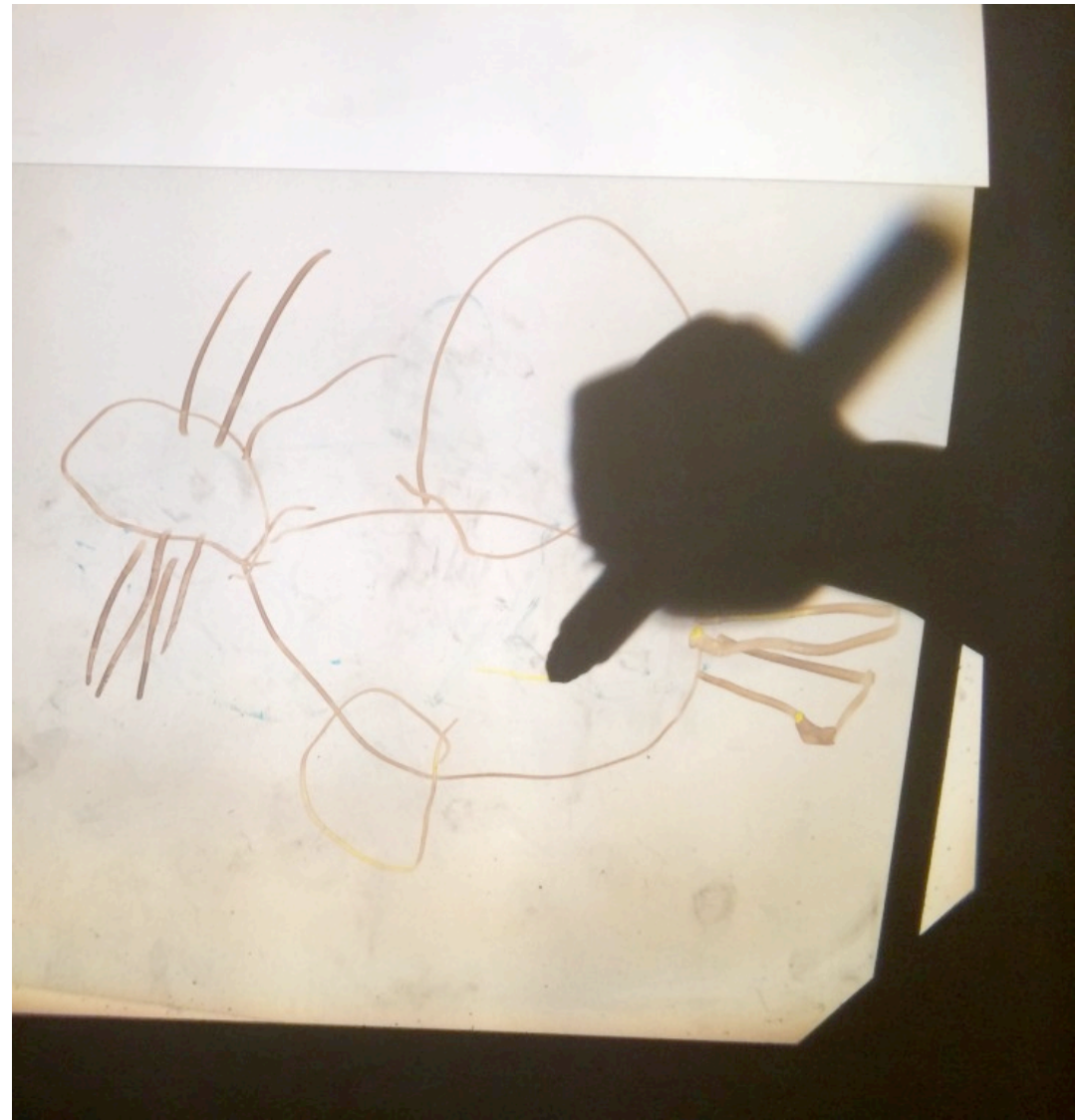
Programs

An open-ended storytelling program, in which children are invited to draw on transparencies, then put their pictures on an overhead projector and share their stories

The Picture Show: An Exploration in Oral Narrative

by Rebecca Zarazan Dunn

<http://www.sturdyforcommonthings.com/2014/08/the-picture-show-an-exploration-in-oral-narrative/>



Storytelling

Preschool

Writing | Talking | Playing

Print Awareness | Narrative Skills
Programs

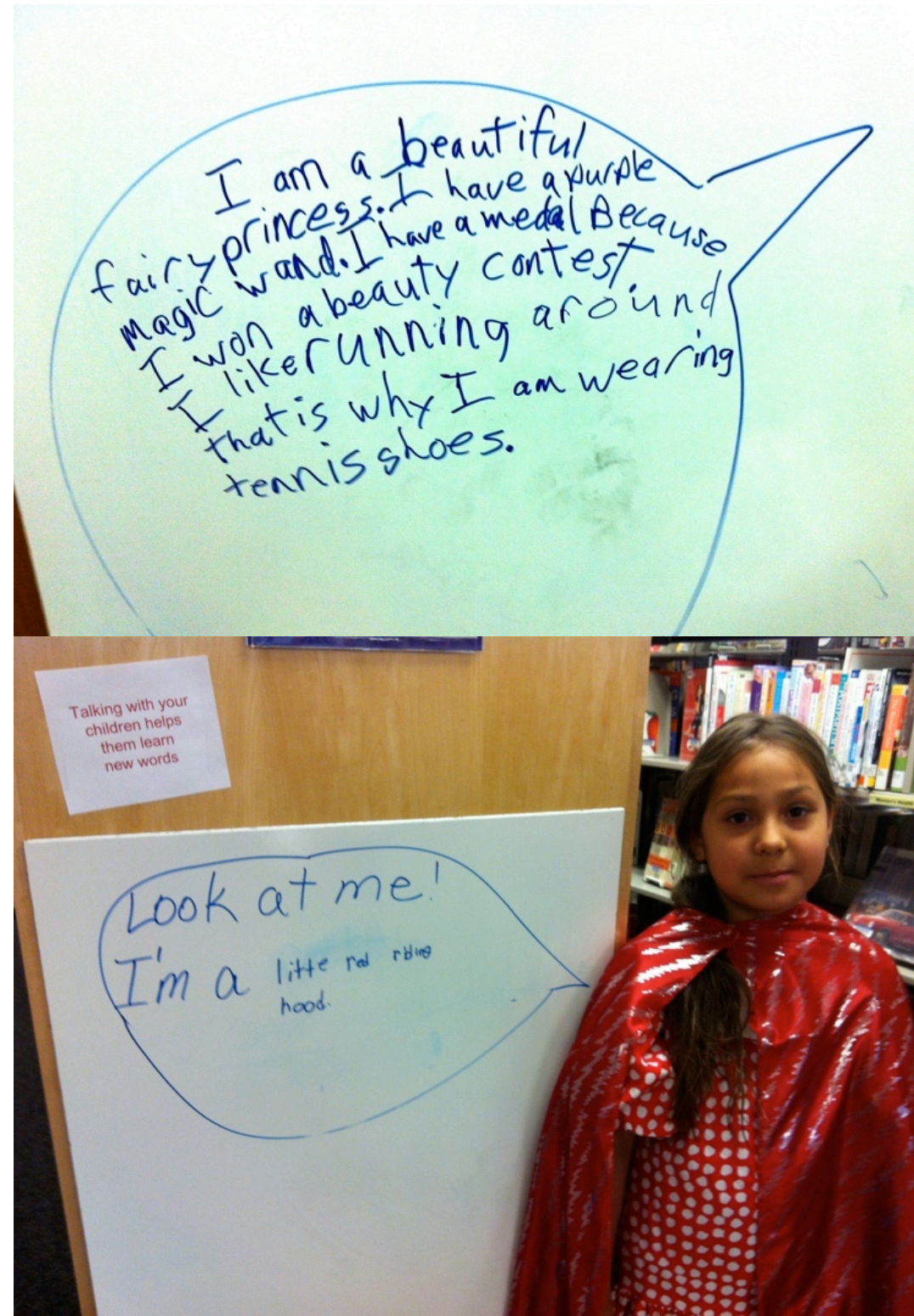
Provide dress-up materials and props, and let the children talk about who they are and what they are doing; write down what they say & read it back to them

Write This Down: Story Dictation and Vivian Gussin Paley...

by Cate Levinson

<http://storytiming.com/2014/09/05/write-this-down-story-dictation-in-the-library-is-awesome-and-vivian-gussin-paley-is-a-goddess/>

Photos from Nursery Rhyme Garden at Arapahoe Library District



Scribble Time

Toddlers

Writing | Talking | Playing

Vocabulary | Narrative Skills

Programs

Award-winning! Process-oriented story & arts program for 1-3 year olds to develop fine motor skills essential to writing; also fosters vocabulary building

Scribble Time

Franklin Township (NJ) Public Library

<http://www.franklintwp.org/blog/index.php/tag/scribble-time/>



Franklin TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Where Ideas and People Meet

Block Parties

Toddlers | Preschool | Families
Playing
Letter Knowledge
Background Knowledge
Programs

Provide several different kinds of block sets (Lego, foam, math, wood, cardboard boxes) in a program room for families to use together

Programs at Fort Worth Library
<http://fortworthtexas.gov/library/worthreading>

Block Party

by Sarah Bean Thompson

<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2014/10/block-party/>



**Fort Worth
Library**

A Service of the City of Fort Worth



Block Parties

Come play with blocks in ways that develop science, technology, engineering and math skills. Learn about counting, architecture, gravity, balance, shapes and how to work with others. Activities provide an environment for experimenting and developing critical thinking skills. (No children over 6; all children must be accompanied by an adult.)

Writing Center

Toddler | Preschool | Families
Writing | Talking | Playing | Reading
Print Awareness +
Background Knowledge
Spaces

Finding space for a table and some writing supplies for free or directed play

Arlington (VA) Public Library
<http://library.arlingtonva.us/2012/11/06/now-open-westovers-early-literacy-writing-center>

Susan Kapucsinski Gaylord
Making Books
<http://www.makingbooks.com/>

Madison Public Library
Play Literacy Program
<http://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/kids/play-literacy>

Now Open: Westover's Writing Center for Kids

Reading and writing go together!

The Westover Branch Library's new Writing Center is a special place for young children to develop fine motor skills, communicate through scribbles and drawings, and have fun with their parents and caregivers – while developing their early literacy skills.



See more

Early literacy
and writing



Early Literacy Kits

Families

Reading +

ALL THE SKILLS!

Collections

Take-home bags with materials to support caregiver/child engagement across the five practices.

Clinton-Macomb (MI) Public Library
Early Literacy Kits

by Lisa Mulvenna

<http://lisaslibraryland.blogspot.com/2014/04/early-literacy-kits.html>



www.lisaslibraryland.blogspot.com



www.lisaslibraryland.blogspot.com

Early Literacy Kits

Families

Reading +

ALL THE SKILLS!

Collections

Take-home bags with materials to support caregiver/child engagement across the five practices.

Book Bundles
at Cherry Hill Public Library

Read Together Backpacks
at Maplewood Memorial Library

Early Literacy on the Go
at Bernardsville Public Library



www.lisaslibraryland.blogspot.com



www.lisaslibraryland.blogspot.com

Play and Learn Kits

Families

Playing +

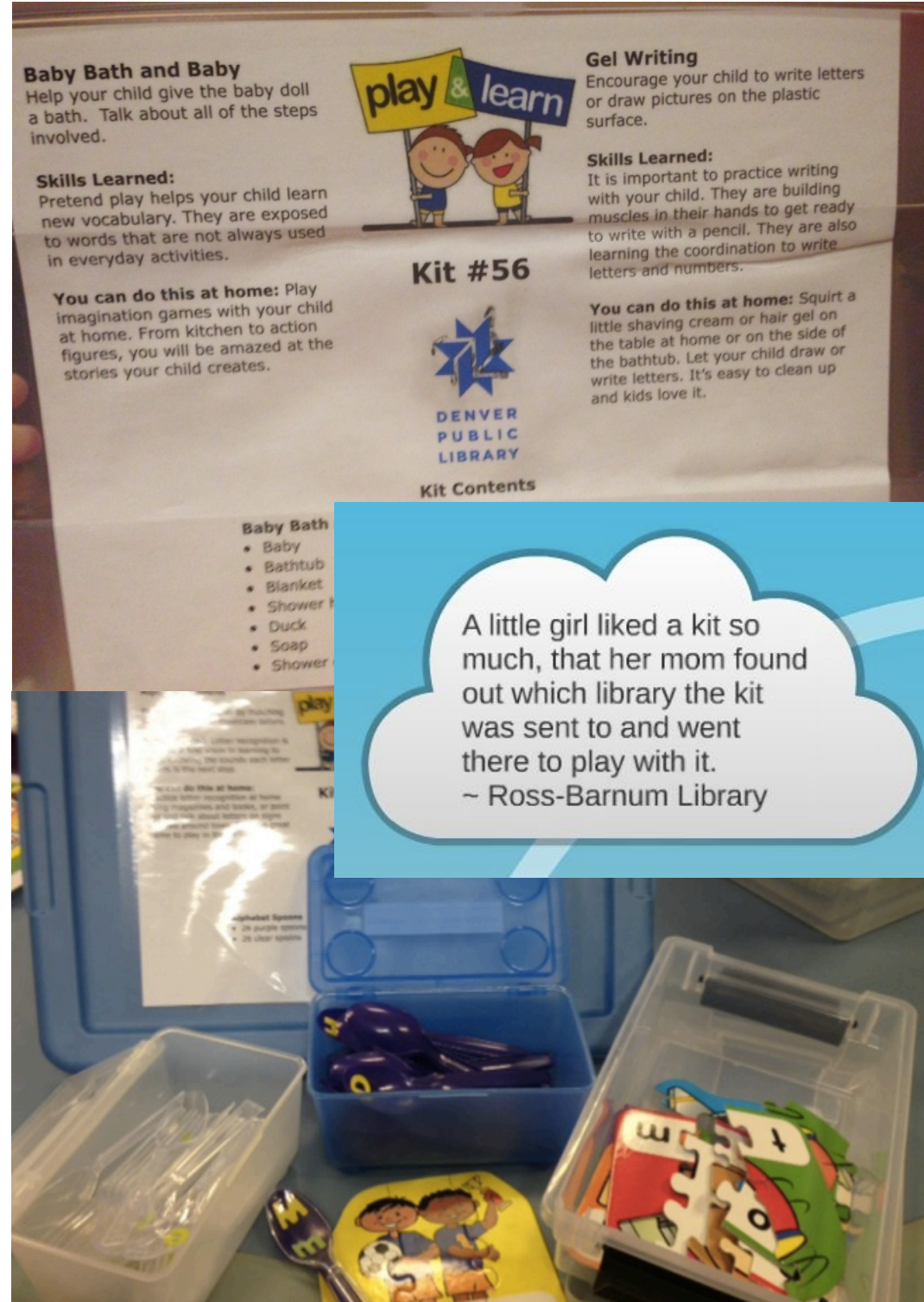
ALL THE SKILLS!

Spaces

Boxes for in-the-library use of simple, inexpensive activities that rotate weekly between branches

Denver Public Library

by Lisa Dengerink, Kristin Roper, Mary Schadler
<http://prezi.com/t9sbws9qnp86/play-and-learn-kits/>




eNewsletters

Caregivers
Reading +
Caregiver Messaging
Content

Monthly digital newsletter for parents and caregivers; book & activity recommendations, program information, early literacy messages

Early Lit Bits
at Kent (MI) District Library
<http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs154/1102260675081/archive/1118861275285.html>



EARLY LIT BITS

YOUR KDL PLAY-GROW-READ CONNECTION

October, 2014 Issue No. 53

KDL
Kent District Library
www.kdl.org

In This Issue

- [Fine Motor Skills](#)
- [Music Minute](#)
- [Learning with Crafts](#)
- [Book Review](#)
- [App Review](#)

Fine Motor Skills

Playful Play Dough Monster

This time of year brings to mind creepy crawlies and spooky things that go bump in the night. Making a playful play dough monster gives children an opportunity to focus their creativity while strengthening fine motor muscles. Start with a favorite color of play dough and shape it into the monster's body. Next add small

Greetings!

Kent District Library is here to provide you and your child with the skills needed to succeed in school and in life. KDL's Early Lit Bits newsletter is full of FUN and simple activities that will help foster that growth. For more information regarding the skills your child needs before he or she learns to read, visit the [Play-Grow-Read](#) section of the KDL website. You can also stop by any [KDL branch](#) to speak with one of our helpful youth librarians. We hope to see you soon! For more early literacy activity ideas be sure to check out KDL's [Monthly Early Literacy Calendar](#).

Learning With Crafts

Acorn Boxes



Autumn walks turn up special little treasures. We often come home with our pockets full of acorns, pebbles and maple tree wings. Appreciate nature's tiny gifts by making a special acorn box to house small objects collected on walks. Use two small sections of a paper egg carton to form the top and bottom of the box. Paint the top egg cup brown and the bottom beige. Cut a 1/2" slit in the bottom of the brown cup and pull a ribbon loop through to form a handle. Knot the ribbon on the inside of the cup. Now place your little treasures in the other cup (the bottom of the box) and glue the top on. Children may

Early Literacy Calendar

Caregivers
Reading +
Caregiver Messaging
Content

Something to do to boost early learning every day of the month

Cherry Hill Public Library
<http://www.chplyouthservices.blogspot.com/2014/09/october-2014-early-literacy-calendar.html>

March 2014 Early Literacy Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p style="font-size: small;">Help your child get ready to read! Just do one activity each day. Ask your children's librarian for more tips and ideas to promote pre-reading skills in your child. For more about our children's programs check out our website: www.chplnj.org</p>						<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">1 VISIT THE LIBRARY!</p>
<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">2 Read a book by Dr. Seuss</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">3 Play Pretend you are a rabbit. How would you move?</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">4 Talk about what you did yesterday. What will you do tomorrow?</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">5 Listen to a music CD and do a funny dance.</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">6 Sing "Little Bunny Foo Foo"</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">7 Read "And Then it's Spring" by Julie Fogliano</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">8 Make Draw a silly creature.</p>
<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">9 Talk Try to find words that rhyme with "Funny"</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">10 Read "Where is Green Sheep?" by Mem Fox.</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">11 Sing "Six Little Ducks"</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">12 Write Practice making letters.</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">13 Talk about what you will do when it is summer.</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">14 Make Mix 4 parts flour with 1 part oil to create "moon dough"</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">15 Registration starts today. Check the March events calendar!</p>
<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">16 Sing a song about the moon.</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">17 Make Draw a rainbow. Name all the colors.</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">18 Sing Make up a story-song and sing it.</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">19 VISIT THE LIBRARY!</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">20 Play Can you walk backwards? Hop? Run?</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">21 Listen to a picture book with a CD.</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">22 Read "Lena's Sleep Sheep" by Anita Lobel.</p>
<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">23 Read a shape book</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">24 Write a letter in your name</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">25 Play Join us for a Toddler Dance Party @ 10a.m.</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">26 Listen to music by Caspar Babypants.</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">27 Sing a counting song</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">28 Read a train book</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">29 Talk Try making up a Knock Knock joke.</p>
<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">30 Sing "Rain, Rain Go Away"</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">31 Read a joke and practice telling it.</p>					

Monthly Mailings

Caregivers
Reading +
Caregiver Messaging
Content

Monthly postcard mailed to families to coincide with the child's age; age appropriate book recommendation and early literacy tip

Leading to Reading
at Seward (NE) Memorial Library
<http://www.leading2reading.com/index.html>



Tip of the Month

Caregivers

Reading +

Caregiver Messaging

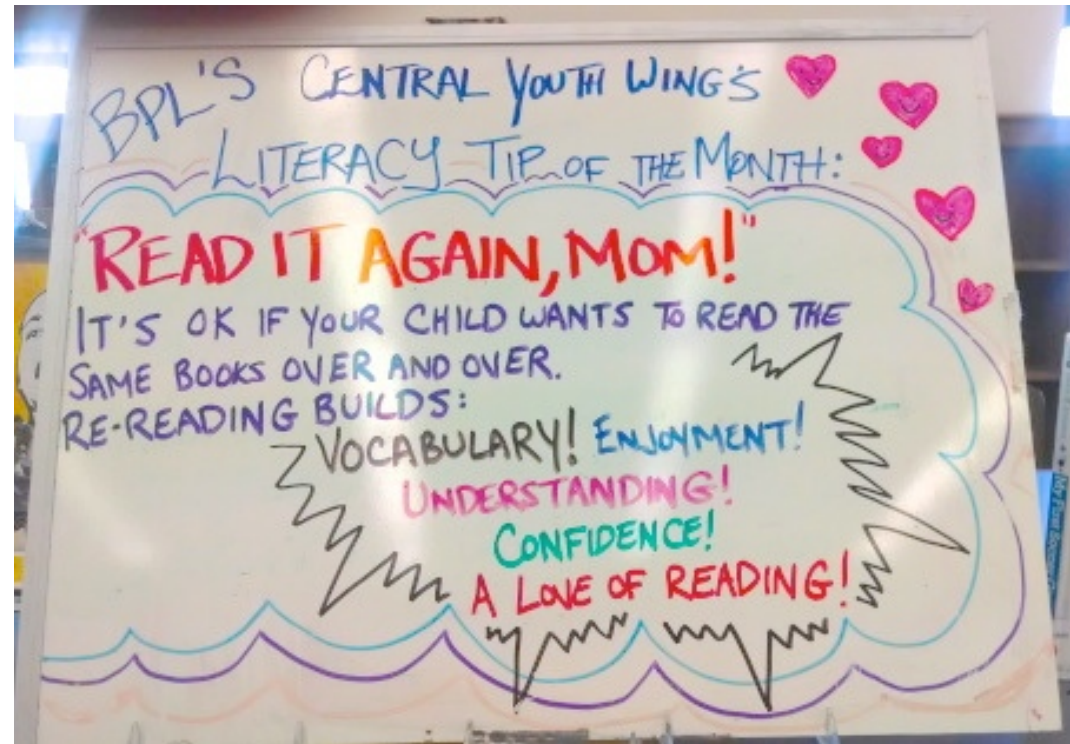
Content

Monthly whiteboard with hand-written literacy tip

Little Reminders Everywhere

by Ingrid

<http://magpielibrarian.wordpress.com/2014/01/23/little-reminders-everywhere-again-again-the-benefits-of-re-reading/>



Box Messages

Caregivers

Talking | Playing

Narrative Skills | Vocabulary

Collections

Question prompts for adults to ask their children while they play, taped to the inside of a box of toys for library use

at Arapahoe Library District



Stuffed Animal Sleepovers

Toddlers | Preschool | Families
Reading | Writing | Talking
Print Awareness +
Programs

Kids drop off stuffed animals at the library, and the next day receive pictures of what the animals did in the library overnight

Stuffed Animal Sleepover

by Claudia Haines

<http://nevershushed.com/2014/08/26/stuffed-animal-sleepover/>



Stay and Play

Babies | Toddlers | Preschool |
Caregivers | Families
Playing | Talking
Letter Knowledge | Narrative Skills
Programs

Set aside time for free play
after storytime



Interactive Displays

Families

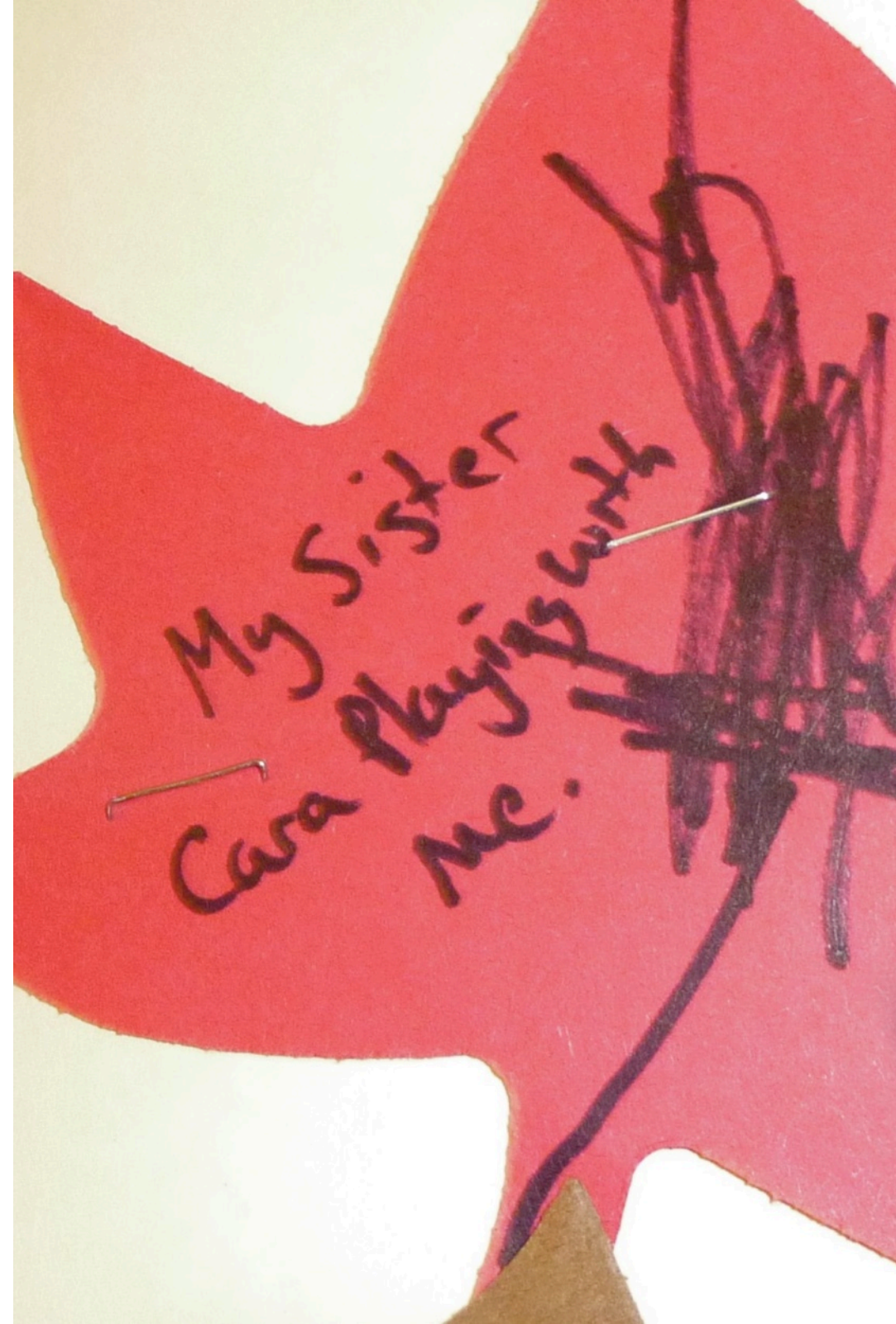
Writing | Talking | Reading

Print Awareness

Spaces

Use a bulletin board to ask a question or set a challenge (I Spy, Name Three Things, What's Missing)

Arapahoe Library District



Book Displays

Caregivers

Reading

Print Awareness +

Spaces

Make early literacy skill- or practice-themed displays; bookmarks in books can have quick tips on them

CLEL

Picture Book Ideas for ECRR

<http://www.clel.org/#!/picture-books-and-activities/ct5o>

Bell Awards for Early Literacy

<http://www.clel.org/#!/clelbellaawards/c8k2>



Early Literacy Remix

- Exercise developed for an LIS class
- Designed to help libraries think systematically about early literacy programs and services
- Provide an opportunity for brainstorming either through surprising combinations or with a more structured approach



Babies
Toddlers
preschoolers
families
caregivers



Age Groups

Reading

writing

singing

talking

playing

laughing

Early Literacy Practices

print motivation

print awareness

letter knowledge

phon. awareness

vocabulary

narrative skills

background knowledge

Early Literacy Skills

Program

Service

Storytime

Content

Space

Advisory

Outreach

Collection

Technology

Reference

Partners

Service Areas

Caregivers
Singing
Programs



Grandparents Refresher Course

Caregivers
Singing
Programs

Babies
Reading
Collections



Board Books

Babies
Reading
Collections



Board Books

Collections

-

Space

-

Partners

-
-

Content

-

Advisory

-

Outreach

-

Technology

-



Board Books

Collections

- Remove Fines

Space

- New Location / Shelving

Partners

- Local Bookstore
- Reach Out and Read

Content

- Recommended / New Lists

Advisory

- Ages & Stages

Outreach

- Books at Local Businesses

Technology

- Apps

Just Right Board Books

Babies | Caregivers
Reading
Print Motivation
Collections | Outreach

Each bag has 5 board books chosen for a particular age range (eg 3 mo, 6 mo) with an information card about what features make those age-appropriate choices

Arapahoe Library District



Just Right Board Books
Bringing home books to your baby and sharing reading time together is an excellent way to enjoy each other, build critical brain connections, and start your child on the road to reading. These Just Right Board Book Sets show what types of books are good to share—and why—each step of the way. **For babies birth-6 months**, try books like the ones in this bag:

White on Black
TANA HOBAN
Babies' brand-new eyes and vision are still developing. Simple pictures with contrasting colors and clear "edges" help them focus on the page.

High Contrast
Babies' brand-new eyes and vision are still developing. Simple pictures with contrasting colors and clear "edges" help them focus on the page.

Songs to Sing
Listening to songs is soothing and an important way for babies to begin to learn about the sounds of their first language.

Soft Books
Soft cloth or vinyl books are easy for babies to grab as they start to explore how pages work!

Old Favorites
Best-loved books from your childhood are fun to read aloud even if they're meant for older listeners. Just stop for a while if your baby becomes fussy—then read more later!

Read to Your Baby!
Research shows that reading aloud every day to your baby is the number one best way to prepare them to become good readers themselves.

Just Right Board Books * 3 months Set B

Baby Book Bees

Babies
Reading
Print Motivation
Programs

A passive program that encourages parents to read 100 books to their babies before their first birthdays, with regular check-ins and motivational prizes

La Crosse (WI) Public Library
Baby Book Bees

by Brooke Newberry

<http://readingwithred.blogspot.com/2013/11/baby-book-bees.html>





Baby Garden

at Warrensville Heights Public Library
Cuyahoga County (OH) Public Library
<http://bit.ly/1nMCDJj>



Baby Garden

at Warrensville Heights Public Library
Cuyahoga County (OH) Public Library
<http://bit.ly/1nMCDJj>

Babies
Writing
Spaces



Baby Garden
at Antioch Library
Johnson County (KS) Library

Babies
Writing
Spaces



Rattles Basket

Babies
Writing
Spaces



Your turn!

What is a practice, age group, or service area you would like to think about right now?

Have Fun

- Not all combinations are viable
- Remixing is not a checklist
- Use what is useful to your library
- Try it with other domains!



Review

Going beyond storytime...

helps us reach more families in our communities, provides on-the-spot early literacy information, and works to reach the whole child with the whole library

allows us to model to families that early learning happens everywhere, all the time

helps us to more fully support our libraries' missions and goals



Review

Describe your programs and services in the language of your library's mission and goals

Map the connections between what you already offer and early literacy skills and practices

Use your library's strategic objectives as support and direction for new early literacy proposals



Review

Systematically consider

age groups

service areas

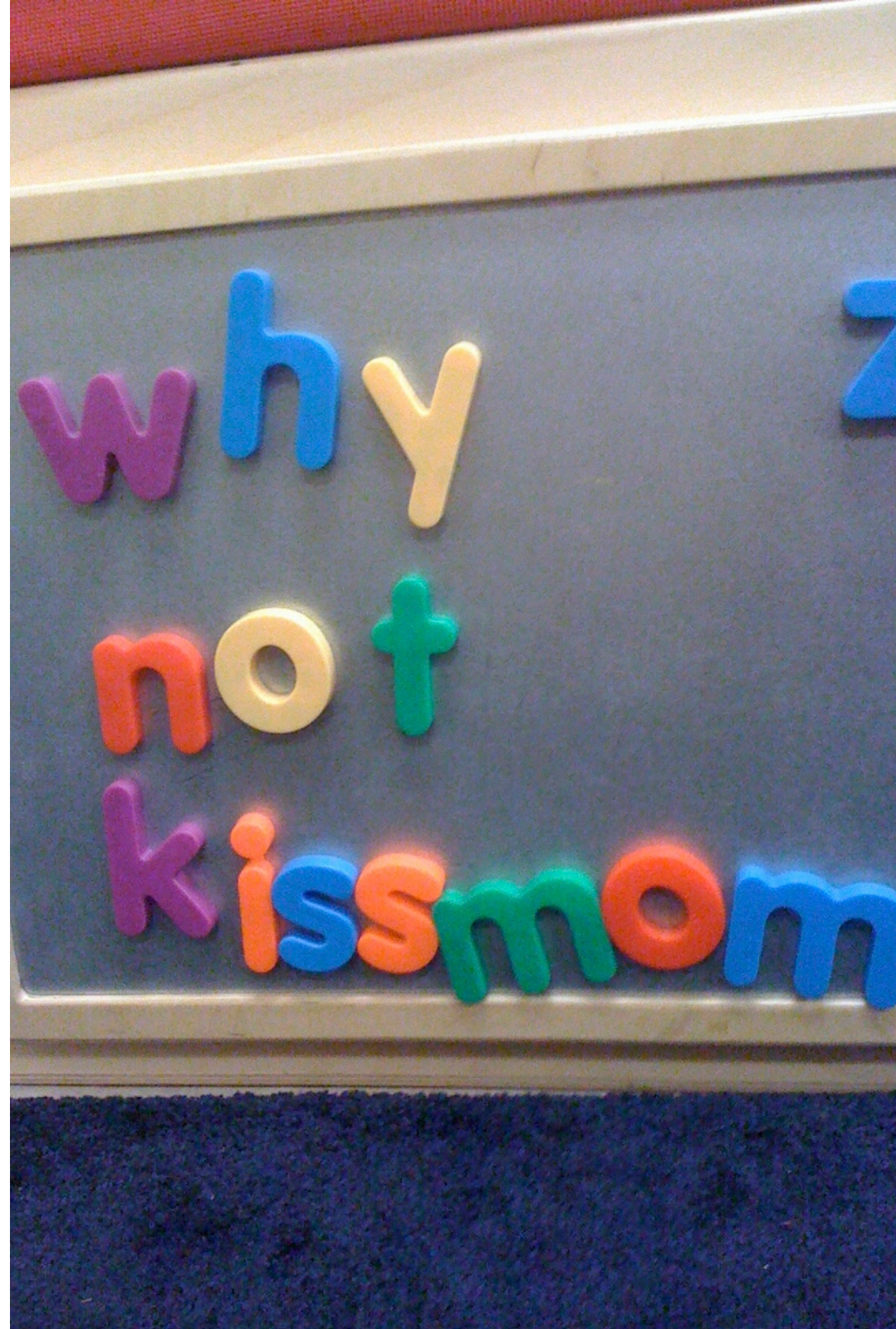
early literacy practices

early literacy skills

in various combinations to spark
ideas for programs and services that
fit your library and community needs



Questions?



Resources: ECRR

Every Child Ready to Read

<http://www.everychildreadytoread.org/>

Ohio Ready to Read

Early Literacy Crosswalk

<https://ohelcrosswalk.wikispaces.com/Ohio+Early+Literacy+Crosswalk>

Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy

<http://www.clel.org/>

Earlier is Easier

<http://www.earlieriseasier.org/>

children (10) Children's Art (1) children's librari... citation (3)

CLEL (4) CLELBells (1) clipart (1) cognition (4) Cognitive

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4) gifts (1) **Gopnik** (1) grace (1) grant (1) gross (1) **guernsey** (1)

ndout (11) **handouts** (7) **Handwriting** (1) **HeadStart** (1) **hearing** (1)

howto (6) images (1) **infant** (3) Info (1) **infographic** (2) info

instruction (10) **instructional desi...** **interactive** (4) **interrup**

Resources: Partners

Books Build Connections

AAP Toolkit

<http://littoolkit.aap.org/Pages/home.aspx>

The Heckman Equation

Investing in Early Childhood

<http://heckmanequation.org/>

Family Place Libraries

<http://familyplacelibraries.org>

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instruction (10) **instructional desi...** **interactive** (4) **interru**

Resources: Research

Center for Early Literacy Learning

<http://www.earlyliteracylearning.org/>

NAEYC & NJAEYC

<http://naeyc.org/>

<http://njaeyc.org/>

Zero To Three

<http://zerotothree.org>

Reading Rockets

<http://readingrockets.org>

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Resources: Storytime

Storytime Underground

<http://storytimeunderground.org/>

Flannel Friday

<http://flannelfridaystorytime.blogspot.com/>

Jbrary

<http://jbrary.com>

Storytime Blogs

http://melissa.depperfamily.net/blog/?page_id=519

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howto (6) images (1) **infant** (3) **Info** (1) **infographic** (2) **info**

instruction (10) **instructional desi...** **interactive** (4) **interrun**

Age Group



Adults

Services



Advisory

Practices



Playing

Skills



Vocabulary

Shuffle

PopsicleSticks

Source code: [PopsicleSticks](#)

Built with [Processing](#) and [Processing.js](#)

Your Own Popsticks!

<http://melissa.depperfamily.net/popsticks/>

Thank You

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Mel's Desk <http://melissa.depperfamily.net/blog>

