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Branch Locations & Phone Numbers

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10 Clif View Drive, Wentzville (636) 244-3962

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1200 Corporate Pkwy, Wentzville (636) 332-8280

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2323 Elm Street, St. Charles (636) 946-6294

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Ages 3-5

Grow your Reader



5 FUNDAMENTAL SKILLS

Here are some tips & activities to incorporate these skills into your daily routines.

Reading together is the most important thing

READ

you can do to develop early literacy skills

- Keep reading fun! Let your child pick out books to read!
- Read books with simple rhymes or predictable stories that your child can "help" you read.
- Let your child see you and other family members reading.
- Use expression in your voice and point to words as you read.



WRITE

Understanding writing means knowing that

written words express ideas and events

- Allow your child to scribble and draw on unlined paper.
- Encourage your child to write their name, sign cards, autograph artwork, etc.
 Let your child use scissors and glue to build muscles and

coordination in their hands.

 Point out shapes and letters when you are out. Help your child recognize the letter that begins their name.



TALK

Conversations teach a child new words and how to express ideas

- Ask your child open-ended questions and allow plenty of time for them to answer.
- Relate books to your life. Talk about things seen throughout the day, connecting them back to the books you have read.
- Use new words when you talk. Take time to explain new ideas or words.
- Before reading a book, look at the cover. Ask your child what they think
 will happen in the story based on the cover. Try this with other pictures
 or posters you might see.

SING

Singing breaks down words into

distinct sounds and syllables

- Sing! Don't worry about your singing voice! Your children love your voice!
- Change favorite songs by singing fast or slow, high or low.
- Look for songs that are interactive. Clap and dance with music to build motor skills. Clapping also helps to hear syllables.
- Play rhyming games. How many words can you rhyme with hat?
 Take turns until you run out of ideas, then move on to a new word.

PLAY

Playing allows children the opportunity

to express themselves and their ideas

- Pretend! This is one of the best ways for children to begin telling stories. Encourage storytelling by asking what happens first, next, and last.
- Let your child build with blocks, blankets, and pillows. Ask questions about what your child builds.
- Take your play outside! Explore your neighborhood or go enjoy a storybook walk.
- Go to the Library. Each Library has different stations for playing.