

Monthly Family Newsletter



MARCH 2023



Reading with your children...

With the advancements in technology our children are often times, not exposed to books and the pleasure that comes with reading a good story with mom and dad. The benefits of reading to your child will last a lifetime! Reading to your child will boost their vocabulary, make them better readers in time, expand their view of the world and build confidence. Reading with your children is valuable for child development and their well-being. It also strengthens the bond between children and their parents.

Here are 10 interactive tips to encourage learning to read at home.

1. Use songs and nursery rhymes to build phonemic awareness.

The rhyme & rhythm help kids to hear sounds and syllables in words, which helps them learn to read.

2. Make simple word cards at home.

Make simple cards with a word containing 3 sounds on each & read the word together while holding up three fingers. This will help them build essential phonics & decoding skills.

3. Engage your child in a print-rich environment.

Seeing printed words (on posters, books, etc.) helps children to see & apply connections between sounds & letter symbols.

4. Play word games at home or in the car.

Introducing simple word games regularly will encourage your child to listen, identify & manipulate the sounds in words.

5. Understand the core skills involved in teaching kids to read.

It is important to involve the different skills that learning to read involves which include: phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, reading comprehension, & fluency.

6. Play with letter magnets.

This is an easy way to have your child recognize vowels as you say words aloud.

7. Harness the power of technology to keep your child engaged.

Learning to read should be an enjoyable process to keep kids motivated to improve. A way to keep them motivated is to receive small rewards as they reach new levels.

8. Read together daily and ask questions about the book.

Many skills can be picked up by children through the simple act of reading to a child.

9. Play games to memorize high-frequency sight words every day.

Learning to identify & read sight words is essential for young children to become fluent readers.

10. Be patient.

The best way to teach kids to read is to make it fun!



"When I look back, I am so impressed again with the life-giving power of literature. If I were a young person today, trying to gain a sense of myself in the world, I would do that again by reading, just as I did when I was young."

— Maya Angelou



Meet the Cummings Staff!

LARISSA NICPON

Larissa Nicpon is an Early Head Start Teacher at Cummings and has been with us for almost a year. When Larissa isn't at Cummings, she is most likely walking somewhere... she loves to walk! If Larissa could have any superpower, she would choose to have the ability to fly so that she could get places faster - we should all have that superpower right?! Larissa's favorite color is black and enjoys a nice warm plate of Mac N' Cheese for her perfect meal. Her favorite season is summer and her favorite book is *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle.

"I love working at Cummings Great Expectations because it feels like we are all one big family!"

LARISSA NICPON



THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING US TO BE A PART OF YOUR FAMILY



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