

Workshops

Reading to Read: Using Story Time to Target Early Language and Literacy Skills – In this research-based course, parents will be given literacy milestones and shown simple techniques to address core reading skills during shared book or dialogic reading activities. The presenter will discuss current trends in education and literacy interventions geared towards developing children’s vocabulary, listening comprehension, and phonological awareness amongst other critical reading skills. This workshop can be modified to focus on any specific age group or all ages 0-5. Course time 90 minutes.

Nice Talking, Baby – This workshop will provide insightful instruction on stimulating early speech and language skills with children birth to 2 years. The presenter will discuss multiple modalities of encouraging early communication, including the use of baby signs as well as cued speech. Presented by a Speech Language Pathologist specializing in Early Intervention techniques, this class will also address tips for reading to babies and fostering early literacy skills with infants and toddlers. Course time can be adjusted 60-90 minutes.

Making the Most out of Family Story Time – Parents with children of various ages. The presenter will give an overview of language development for children ages 1-6 and describe how language milestones influence literacy skills. Ideas for adapting books using the *Read Down, Question Up* method or the *Read Up, Statement Down* method will be explained so that children of multiple ages will benefit from reading books together. Course time 60 minutes.

Receptive Language: The Link between Listening and Literacy – The presenter will describe and discuss the symbiotic relationships between receptive language, listening skills, and literacy. Activities and strategies for strengthening each skill with 3 and 4 year olds will be shared. Course time 60 minutes.

Speech and Language Development: Toys as Tools – The presenter will describe speech-language milestones by age while highlighting specific red flags that every parent should know to help identify a potential speech-language delay. The presenter will give parents ideas of ways to enrich the speech and language development of their children, regardless of ability level. Parents will also have the opportunity to ask specific questions regarding their children. This workshop can be modified to focus on any specific age group or all ages 0-5. Course time can be adjusted 60-90 minutes.

Picky Eater vs. Problem Feeder – Parents concerned about their children’s eating habits will learn the difference between picky and problem eaters. Parents will learn the underlying causes of feeding issues as well as resources and strategies to make healthy mealtimes more pleasant.