



Movement for Language & Literacy

Language and literacy skills can be built through everyday activities *and* movement! As a caring grown-up in a child's life, you can facilitate movement and learning. In this webinar, we'll explore strategies to help kids leap into language and literacy.

Use the activities from today's webinar in your own work with kids.

Be My Echo

What to do: Throughout your daily routines, encourage kids to echo things you say. For example, in the morning, say something silly like, "Good morning, purple banana!" Add some playful movement to amp up the fun!

Act Out Words

What to do: As kids discover new words, ensure they "stick" by acting them out. Try starting with action words, like *stop* and *start*, and then move to more advanced words like *gigantic* or *surprising*.

Skills Practiced:

- Focusing attention
- Listening
- Speaking

Name That Letter

What to do: Think of a letter, describe the sound(s) it makes, and list words that start with that letter. Then have kids guess the letter you're thinking of. Try making the letter using your bodies.

Letter Hunt

What to do: Take a stroll and look around (anytime, any place!) to see what letters and words you can find. Practice saying each letter and making its sound(s). When you find words, be sure to act them out!

Rhyme Time

What to do: Remind kids that sometimes words can share the same sounds. For example, *tap*, *clap*, *snap* all share the "ap" sound. Think of a word and ask kids which words rhyme with it. Try pairing it with some movement.

Skills Practiced:

- Phonics skills - recognizing letters & sounds
- Word recognition



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Read Together

What to do: Read books aloud together with kids in your care.

As you read, remember these important strategies:

- **Use expression** - Try to convey the mood of the story with the tone of your voice, facial expressions, body language, and attitude. Can you try to use different voices and postures for each character?
- **Act things out** - Layering in movement can help kids connect concepts and remember more completely. Start simple - every time you hear a word, jump up and down!
- **Ask questions** - Get children involved by asking questions about what they think might happen next, how a certain character might be feeling, or what they would do in a similar situation.
- **Point as you read** - Begin building "book awareness" by pointing to characters, talking about the cover, and turning the pages.

Skills Practiced:

- Focus & Memory
- Storytelling & Talking
- Book Awareness

Relaxing Writing Moves

What to do: Use your fingers to draw an imaginary picture in the air. Set a scene and then talk about what might happen in the story. Remember to "sign" your name on your masterpiece!

Skills Practiced:

- Coordination
- Relaxation
- Imagination

