

NM Public School Preschool Children's Knowledge of Books

Literacy learning begins at birth through relationships and environmental literacy experiences. It is crucial that children have positive experiences during book readings, as it helps children develop the motivation to become readers and enjoy reading (Paulson & Moats, 2010, 2018). A child's readiness for school depends on their early learning experiences. Adults can enhance these experiences through the exposure of a variety of high-quality books which promote children's engagement, vocabulary, and comprehension skills (Paulson & Moats, 2010, 2018). When selecting books, adults should consider children's interests and a variety of genres including nonfiction and fiction. **(EI 7.2 Reading Comprehension; 7.3a Concepts of Print; 7.3b Print Meaning)**

Children use and appreciate books.

Children show an interest in books, have correct book orientation, begin to recognize familiar books by their covers as well as recognize some features of a book (i.e., the spine that holds book pages together and text is different from picture).

Children use print concepts.

Children begin to understand that text is read for meaning. They may begin to indicate where to read text as well as show awareness of different print features (i.e., letters and words).

Children interact during read-alouds.

Children become listeners and participants as they ask and answer questions about books.

Children use emergent reading skills.

Children begin to read familiar books by using some of the language from text and using the pictures as cues.

Children retell and invent stories.

Children begin to ask questions and retell some events from familiar stories. Dialogue between adult and child is extremely important as children begin to search for meaning.

References:

Paulson, L. H., & Moats, L. C. (2010). *LETRS for Early Childhood Educators*. Boston, MA: Cambium Learning.

Paulson, L. H., & Moats, L. C. (2018). *LETRS for Early Childhood Educators*. Boston, MA: Cambium Learning.

PED. (2020). New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines.