

EARLY LITERACY PLANNING AGENDA

Early Literacy Skill/Component: What will I stress?

What do I want to emphasize with my tips? How shall I choose what works with my component?

Early Literacy Tip/s: What will I say and where in the plan?

What tip do I want to impart? How does my tip work in my plan? Is there more than one place to mention similar ideas that work with this tip?

AGENDA – AFTER OPENING SONG OR CHANT THE PLAN IS YOURS!

Opening Song or Chant:

Use the same opening every week. Can start loud, but finish in a relaxed but “listening mode.” This opening prepares children to listen as you continue.

Book/s or Board Book/s: Will I read all, interrupt for INTERACTIVITY, or use pictures on certain pages for questions?

MARK PAGES WITH POST-IT NOTES!

Pick out your books, read over and choose what works with this week’s tip. Place post-it note to mark page, notes on back of book.

Activity or Fingerplay: Use movement in hands or body to help with gross and small motor functions.

Time for movement – up/down, loud/soft, and or arms moving in large directions.

Felt Board Story or Characters

A story, a counting rhyme, shapes: this is a place to work with all types of interactivity. Give children TIME to think about your questions (5 FULL seconds) and to help “count with you, or to “say” the answers you are looking for.

Song: Helps with phonological awareness, rhythm, and motor skills with clapping or drumming.

Choose from a myriad of songs to enjoy community and get parents/caregivers to help the child.

Activity with instruments or scarves

Ask families to clap, bank a spoon on a yogurt cup, or small bowl, or have them find handkerchiefs for waving around.

Closing Ritual

Should be the same ending every week. Can be a “wave good-bye” song or a phrase from you.

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This program, Virtual Advancement, is helping you plan an online storytime that allows you to have interaction with your storytime friends, while encouraging parents and caregivers to use these skills every day.

The Agenda is for your plan! The only two things you should make the same every week is the “Opening Song or Chant” and the “Closing.” After that you can start with a tip, go into an activity, or do a book. It is up to you and how the plan comes together.

You must be INTENTIONAL in your planning. The planning revolves around your Early Literacy Tip/s. Within your plan you must have a place for where you will say a tip, stress what you are doing as an early literacy skill, or a suggestion for parents to try at home.

Keep in mind the ages of your group. If you are working with babies through toddlers, you will have to plan accordingly. Board books, more singing and actions, shorter stories for the felt board.

If you are working with pre-schoolers (ages 3-6), you can expect children to have longer attention spans, be able to have better motor skills, participate in singing, finish your rhymes, and understand the narrative structure of a story. The older children will enjoy a full felt story.

You will most likely have a mixed group. Support all your viewers with different activities that can be used by all. A lapsit rhyme can be an up-and-down rhyme for an older child. As a parent holds a younger child, the older sibling may be participating on a different level.

You may long to see your storytime friends back at the library. However, you may be very lucky to find a reason to keep up virtual storytimes in the future. Think about those working parents who may use these opportunities to “visit” the library at their convenience. Children with sensory issues may do well with a virtual storytime. Parents and caregivers, working with developmentally delayed children, may find these virtual storytimes a perfect way to introduce the skills to their children without the hassle of getting to the library.

Good luck and please, have fun!