

LITERACY DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES IN CHILDREN



3 - 4 years old

- Enjoy listening and talking about stories.
 - Recognise familiar signs and labels (e.g. McDonald's, Milo, STOP, LEGO)
 - Participate in rhyming games (e.g. picture matching game - 'cat' rhymes with 'mat')
 - Identify simple letters and match the letter sound
 - Recognise letters in own name
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4 - 5 years old

- Recognise and name uppercase and lowercase letters
 - Write own name
 - Match letters corresponding to the sounds
 - Identify beginning sounds
 - Know print concept (e.g. read from left to right and top to bottom)
 - Match spoken words to its written form
 - Write the letters of the alphabet
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5 - 6 years old

- Write letters and words when dictated at random
 - Know the sequence of letters represent individual sounds in words
 - Use beginning sounds and letter-sound knowledge to spell
 - Reread and tell familiar stories
 - Recognise and read simple high-frequency words
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6 - 7 years old

- Use letter-sound knowledge to decode and read unfamiliar words
 - Recognise and read more high-frequency words
 - Read simple story readers with ease and accuracy
 - Spell and write simple vocabulary and high-frequency words
 - Use capitalization and punctuation when writing
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Adapted from DeBruin-Parecki, A. with Perkinson, K. & Ferderer, L. (January, 2000). Helping Your Child Become A Reader. U.S. Department of Education.