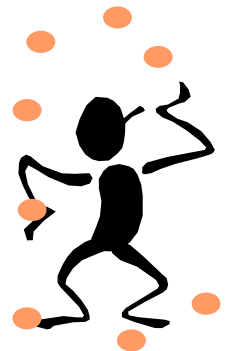
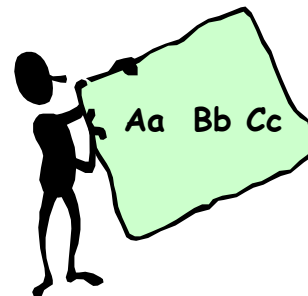


# Early Literacy

State Library of Louisiana  
701 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802 – 5232  
PH: (225) 342 - 4931 FX: (225) 342 – 3547  
[www.state.lib.la.us](http://www.state.lib.la.us)



# State Library of Louisiana



BATON ROUGE

**Inform....Empower...Inspire**

# What Is Early Literacy?

- What children know about reading and writing *before* they can actually read and write.

from "Every Child Ready to Read @ your library, Parent Guide to Early Literacy for Pre-Readers." Public Library Association, Association for Library Service to Children, national Institute of Child Health & Human Development



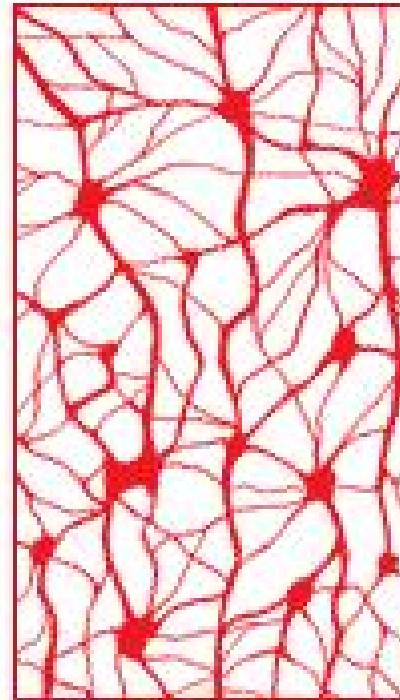
- What children understand about the relationship between the world around them, spoken language, and the printed word *before* formal reading instruction begins.

Rose Anne St. Romain, Early Childhood Services Consultant, State Library of Louisiana, <http://www.state.lib.la.us>

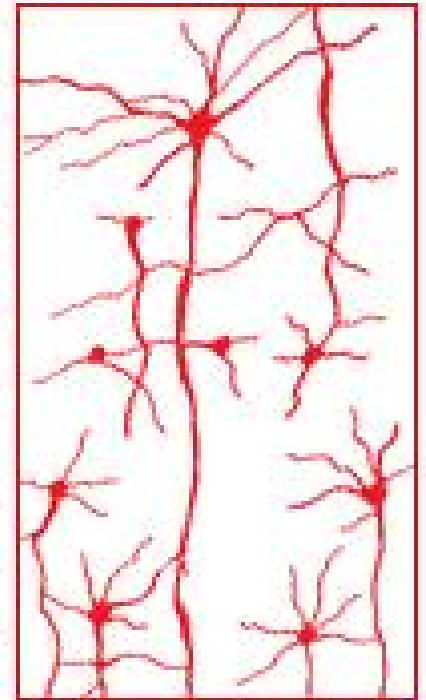
# Why is Early Literacy Important?

- From birth - age 5, the brain develops the neurological pathways needed for future learning.
- These pathways are developed between cells through activities that stimulate a young child's senses
- Brains that are not stimulated do not develop these pathways between cells.
- By age 5, the brain begins to prune away the cells with underdeveloped neurological pathways.
- "Use it or lose it," says the brain.

## Brain cell connections



section of a  
stimulated brain



section of an  
unstimulated brain

# Why is Early Literacy Important?

- Children whose brains have been stimulated to develop the neurological pathways needed for early literacy understandings are ready to learn to read.
- "Research consistently demonstrates that the more children know about language and literacy before they begin formal schooling, the better equipped they are to succeed in reading."

Burns, M.S., Griffin, P., & snow, C.E. (Eds.) (1999). *Starting out right: A guide to promoting children's reading success*. Washington, DC: national Academy Press.



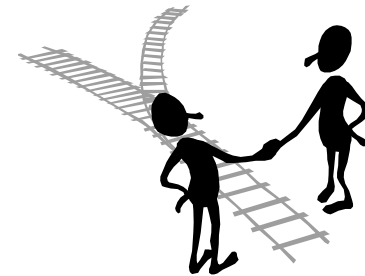
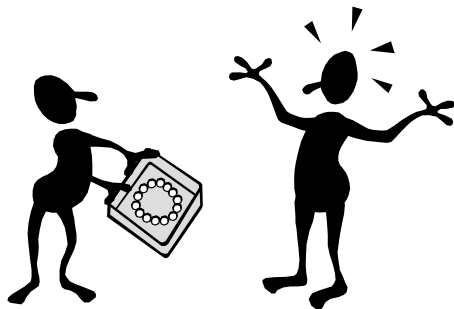
# Early Literacy AND Soccer

Being ready to learn to read is like being ready to learn to play soccer



# What Skills Do You Need to Be Ready to Play Soccer?

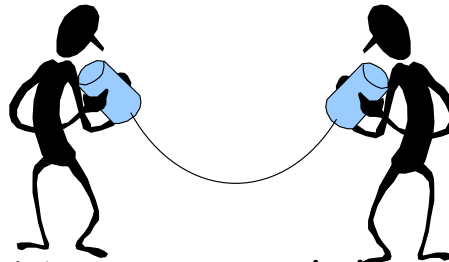
Before you are ready to learn to play soccer you need to know:



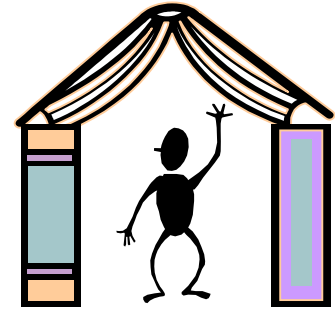
# What Skills Do Children Need to Be Ready to Read?



Vocabulary



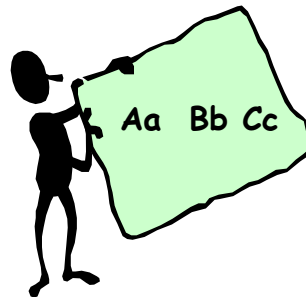
Narrative Skills



Print Motivation



Print Awareness



Letter Knowledge



Phonological Awareness

from "Every Child Ready to Read @ your library, Parent Guide to Early Literacy for Pre-Readers." Public Library Association, Association for Library Service to Children, national Institute of Child Health & Human Development

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# Vocabulary



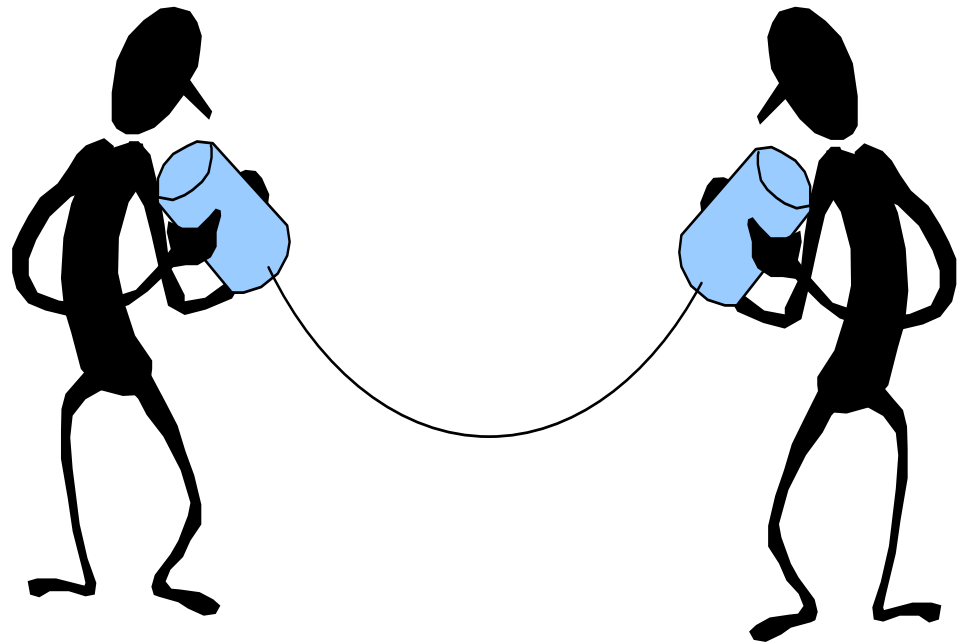
## Knowing the names of things

from "Every Child Ready to Read @ your library, Parent Guide to Early Literacy for Pre-Readers." Public Library Association, Association for Library Service to Children, national Institute of Child Health & Human Development

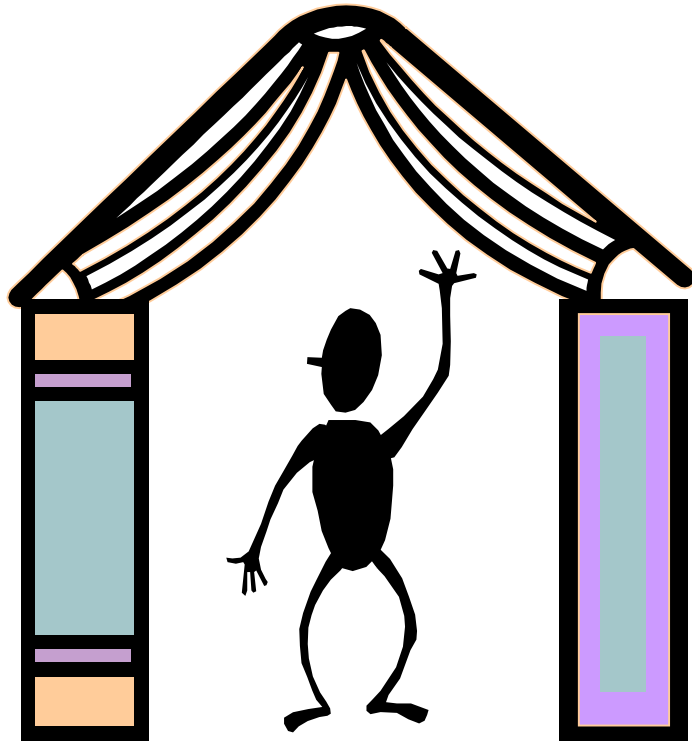
# Narrative Skills

Being able to describe things and events and tell stories.

from "Every Child Ready to Read @ your library, Parent Guide to Early Literacy for Pre-Readers." Public Library Association, Association for Library Service to Children, national Institute of Child Health & Human Development



# Print Motivation



Being interested in and  
enjoying books

from "Every Child Ready to Read @ your library, Parent Guide to Early Literacy for Pre-Readers." Public Library Association, Association for Library Service to Children, national Institute of Child Health & Human Development

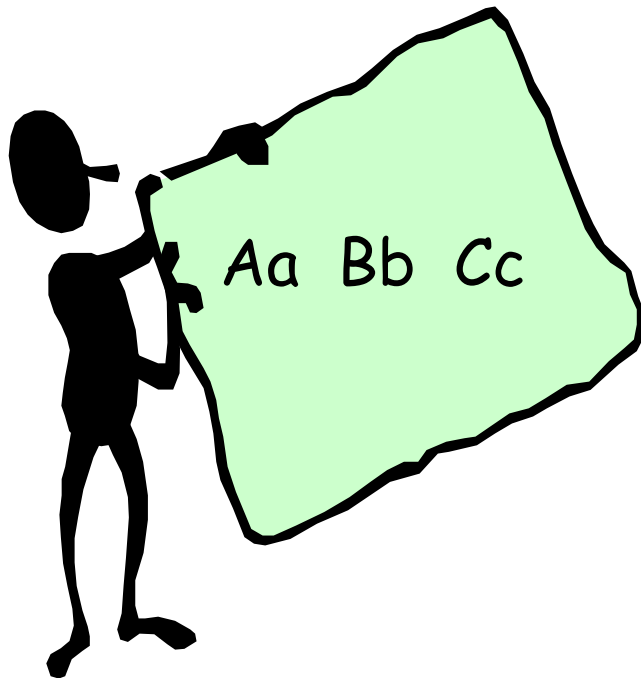
# Print Awareness

Noticing print in the environment, knowing how to handle a book and knowing how to follow the words on a page

from "Every Child Ready to Read @ your library, Parent Guide to Early Literacy for Pre-Readers." Public Library Association, Association for Library Service to Children, national Institute of Child Health & Human Development



# Letter Knowledge



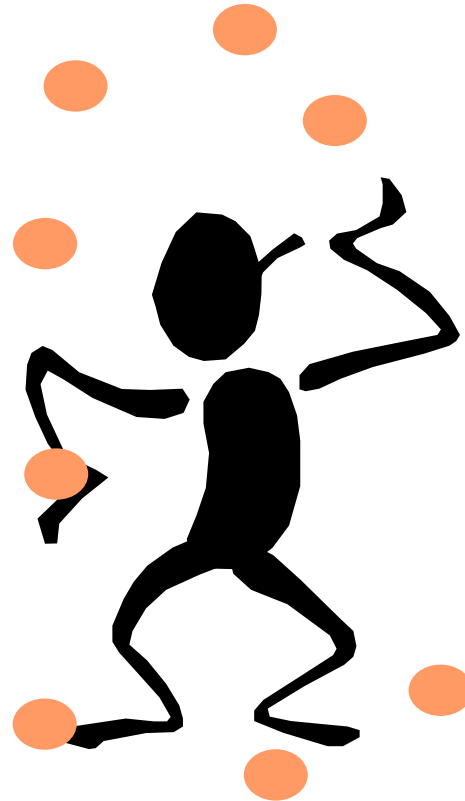
Knowing that letters have different shapes, knowing their names and sounds and recognizing letters everywhere.

from "Every Child Ready to Read @ your library, Parent Guide to Early Literacy for Pre-Readers."  
Public Library Association, Association for Library Service to Children, national Institute of Child Health & Human Development

# Phonological Awareness

Being able to hear and play with  
the smaller sounds in words.

from "Every Child Ready to Read @ your library, Parent Guide to Early Literacy for Pre-Readers."  
Public Library Association, Association for Library Service to Children, national Institute of Child  
Health & Human Development



# How Can Early Literacy Skills Be Fostered?

- Reading aloud using specific techniques
- Teaching children to spell their names
- Group singing
- Rhyming games
- Conversations
- Re-telling of stories
- Various other literacy activities

# The End