

ReadBoston Downloadable Handouts: English

GROWING READERS

The human brain grows up to 90% of its adult weight during the first three years of life.

On average, toddlers learn 10 NEW words each day.

When your child enters kindergarten they should know and use 5,000-8,000 words.

HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD'S LANGUAGE AND LITERACY DEVELOPMENT?

BY TALKING WITH THEM

Name what you see around you as your child's brain is absorbing everything!

Model adult conversations by asking questions and giving your child time to respond.

It is empowering and increases confidence when adults take time to listen to young children.

Do all of this in your home language.

BY READING WITH THEM

Young children learn to read by being read to.

Reading exposes children to vocabulary, develops attention spans, and builds a love of books early.

Read together all the time: before bed, on the potty, while commuting, and during melt downs.

Read books and talk about the pictures in your home language.

BY SINGING WITH THEM

Music is our universal language. The areas of music and language are intertwined in the brain. Singing teaches young children the rhythm of language, builds vocabulary and listening skills. Sing in your home language.

BY PLAYING WITH THEM

Children learn best through play and by moving their bodies (when we sing we move!).

Learning happens when your child is interested and engaged in what they are doing.

Make the most of play time by doing what interests your child.