

Oral Language

Oral language forms the foundation for academic success.

CURRICULUM

Early Years Learning Framework Links (EYLF):

- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators

NSW English Syllabus

Communicates effectively by using interpersonal conventions and language with familiar peers and adults. (ENE-OLC-01)

Understands and effectively uses Tier 1 and Tier 2 words in familiar contexts. (ENE-VOcab-01)

Understands and responds to literature read to them. (ENE-UARL-01)

Learning Progressions (LPs)

PARENTS

READ 2 min

Oral language forms the foundation of literacy and academic success.

A solid foundation of oral language helps children become successful readers, strong communicators, as well as increasing their confidence and overall sense of well-being.

Oral language is developed through telling, sharing and listening to stories. Telling stories is how humans traditionally pass knowledge from generation to generation. Engaging children in oral storytelling (without the use of a printed book) is an effective teaching practice for oral language development.

Storytelling is a special way of sharing ideas, language, and stories.

EXPLORE 10 min

Some ideas for learning in the everyday:

- Spend time with your child - telling stories, listening to stories and sharing stories.
- Share and read Dreaming stories with your child.
- Tell a story through dance or drawing.
- Look at a piece of art – discuss how it makes you feel. Tell a story about the artwork.
- Books to read with your child:
Scaly-tailed Possum and Echidna by Cathy Goonack
The Lizard Gang by Kirra Somerville
Big Rain Coming by Katrina Germein
Little Bird's Day by Sally Morgan

TEACHERS

REFLECT 15 min

Reflect on your knowledge and practice.

Consider the EYLF, NSW Syllabus and LPs:

- Where have these children come from?
- Where are you taking them?

Think about the learning happens in your classroom that builds the knowledge and skills for oral language.

What do you expect from the early learner?

What do you want parents to know about oral language?

How is oral language used across the curriculum?

Consider this skill - What are the connections between literacy and numeracy?

EXPLORE 3 min

Engage in a learning conversation with parents.

Is there anything in the video that challenged your thinking about learning?

What foundational oral language skills do you see in the video?

How are the children:

- Practising their skills?
- Testing their ideas?
- Building their knowledge?

Share what oral language looks like in your classroom.

What opportunity can you create or do you have at home that develops oral language?