

LITERACY MILESTONES

At what age should my child be reading?

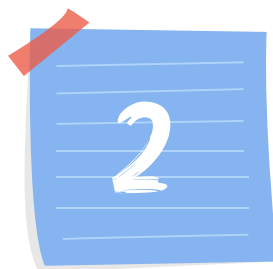


Preschool children ages 3-4 should begin to...



- Identify familiar signs/labels (e.g., grocery store sign).
- Participate in rhyming activities and identify some letter-sound combinations.
- Understand that print carries a message and attempt to use letters to represent meaningful words.
- Enjoy listening to and talking about storybooks and make attempts to read and write.

Children age 5 (Kindergarten) should...



- Enjoy being read to & retell simple stories with a beginning, middle, & end.
- Recognize letter-sound combinations & begin to match print to spoken words.
- Identify rhyming words, beginning sounds, and that print is read left-to-right and top-to-bottom.
- Sound like readers when playing or pretending.
- Begin to write alphabet letters, some words, and stories with some understandable parts.

Children age 6 (First Grade) should...



- Read some materials out loud with ease.
- Sound out major sounds in a word when trying to spell.
- Identify an increasing number of sight-words.
- Decipher new words using letter-sound combinations, parts of words, and the context of a story.
- Use several strategies such as re-reading, looking at pictures, making predictions, and asking questions for help when reading a story.

Children ages 7-8 (2nd Grade & 3rd Grade) should...



- Begin to gain meaning from reading by connecting new information to what they already know.
- Recognize several words by sight and begin to read more fluently.
- Continue to use decoding skills to sound out unfamiliar words.
- Begin to read in meaningful phrases instead of word-by-word.

