Early literacy is the foundation upon which a reader is built!

You are your child’s first and best teacher. You know more about your child than anyone else does. Learning to read starts before children go to school. If you talk, sing, read, write, and play together, your child will be ready to read when she or he starts school.

Talk: Children need to receive and create language to learn it.

Sing: Singing is a great way to learn about language. When we sing, the sounds that make up words become more evident.

Read: Share books together!

Write: Scribble, draw and make tactile art.

Play: Children experience the world through play while developing fine and gross motor skills, cognitive concepts, language, and social skills.

Kindergarten Readiness Checklist:

- Verbalizes wants and needs
- Works and play cooperatively with peers
- Follows simple rules and directions
- Writes his/her name
- Handles a book
- Performs self-care tasks: restroom, washing, eating, dressing, covering mouth when coughing/sneezing
- Uses scissors, glue and crayons
- Identifies some letters and letter sounds
- Counts to 10 (including counts 10 objects)
- Match items
- Rhymes
- Separates from his/her parents

For a full list from the Indiana Department of Education, please visit:

https://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/earlylearning/k-readiness.pdf

Books to Hear Before Kindergarten

Recommended books for children ages 0-5.