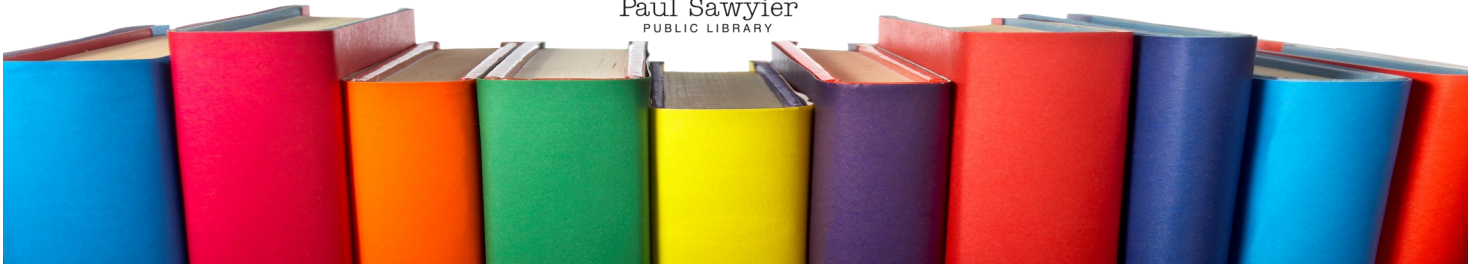


Countdown to Kindergarten

Week 1: “Talking”



Talking with your child now is important to your child’s success in school!

Studies show that the more words a young child hears at home, the more success they will have in learning to read.

How to help your child now:

- *Buy an echo microphone (look at the dollar store for these!) and encourage your child to tell stories or sing into it.
- *Sing songs with words that begin with the same sound repeated throughout (example: “Willoughby Wallaby Woo”).

There is a connection between natural conversation now and reading later!

How to help your child now:

- *Ask questions about the pictures and the story while you read together.
- *Identify objects and words as you play together.
- *Read wordless books together— ask your child to tell the story by looking at the pictures.
- *Talk about items at the grocery store as you shop together.
- *Make up stories together.
- ***Make it fun!**

Books that encourages language and vocabulary development:

Bark George by Jules Feiffer

Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes by Eric Litwin

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie by Laura Numeroff

Bee & Bird by Craig Frazier

Music that encourages language and vocabulary development:

Buzz Buzz; Victor Vito; We are the Dinosaurs — Laurie Berkner

Jim Gill Sings Moving Rhymes for Modern Times — Jim Gill

Music Time with SteveSongs — Steve Songs

Ella Jenkins 123s and ABCs — Ella Jenkins

R. Lynn Baker, 2014

