

A 6 by 6 early literacy skill

Notice Print all around you



6 by 6

READY TO READ

Six skills by six years

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Notice Print all around you

Noticing that print in the environment is meaningful and knowing how to handle a book doesn't just happen. Children need many experiences handling books in their everyday world to understand that print is used in multiple ways for a variety of purposes. This is referred to as *print awareness*, and is different from knowing about letters. It includes knowledge about how a book works.




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Try these activities with your child . . .

■ Look at the picture on the front of this card and help your child find the signs in the picture.

★ Use puzzles that have pictures and letters or words.

▼ Point out that a book has an author and an illustrator.

● Let children help you make a shopping list. Match the words on your list to those on the products.

■ As you write, tell your children what you're doing.

▼ Let children help read recipes as you cook or bake. Let them make a picture recipe.

● Identify print on t-shirts, boxes and signs.

■ Hand a book to your child upside down, and see if she turns it around.

■ When using a menu at a restaurant, show them what you're ordering. When they get home, give them a pad of paper and let them pretend to be a server, taking and filling orders.

Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write.