



Literacy Grab & Go Preschool (3 - 4-year-olds)

Activity Title: Counting Words

Domain: Literacy

Activity Purpose: Help your child distinguish between sentences and words with this counting game.

Rationale

Expressive language is what a child communicates to others and receptive language is what they understand and comprehend from others. This game allows practice naming objects for expressive language practice. Through listening to and using your clues to name items, your child is strengthening their receptive language.

Materials:

- beans, coins, counters, etc. (something small to count)
- a cup
- a book with 5 words or less on each page.

Description of Activity:

1. Give your child 10 small things to count such as beans or coins and give yourself the same number of items.
2. Tell your child that you are going to read a sentence and point to each word you read.
3. Have them listen carefully and put a bean/coin/counter, etc. in the cup every time they hear a word.
 - For example, when reading *My Friend is Sad* by Mo Willems, your child would put four counters in the cup to represent each word of the title you read.
4. Next take a turn putting beans in your own cup. Continue alternating pages and counting until all 10 counters are gone. If there are still more pages to be read, continue reading your book until the end.

Lagniappe:

Use this fun activity to add a little math to your reading time.

Skip the counters and add some rhythm and movement to your reading. After you read a sentence, have your child repeat the sentence, clapping or stomping along with each word.