



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

Activity Title: Part of the Answer

Domain: Language

Activity Purpose: Help your child answer *yes* or *no* questions in complete sentences. Children can use part of the question to answer in a complete sentence.

Rationale

Children often understand more than they can communicate. This sometimes leads to children relying exclusively on body language to communicate. Modeling appropriate questions and responses are foundational to building language skills and preventing children overusing non-verbal communication like head shakes and facial expressions.

Materials: none

- Description of Activity:**
1. During different times of the day, practice having your child answer questions in complete sentences.
 - For example during dinner you might ask, “Do you want ____?” and help your child answer in a complete sentence, “Yes, I want____,” or “No, I do not want____.”
 2. You can vary the questions by inserting number words.
 - For example, “Do you want two spoonfuls of mashed potatoes?” “Do you want five chicken nuggets?” You can also introduce new vocabulary as you prompt your child to answer in complete sentences.
 - “Are you excited about____?” “Are you interested in____?”

Lagniappe: This type of language practice can be done anytime, so have fun helping them speak in complete sentences at home, in the car, or on the go in the community.

Many three-year-olds can string together 2-3 word sentences. Encourage your child to respond beyond *yes* and *no* by incorporating words from your question. For example, “Do you want two spoonfuls of mashed potatoes?” “No want potatoes.”