

Language & Thinking Skills

Language and Thinking skills are reading and writing skills. It includes such pre-literacy skills as holding a book upright, turning the pages of a book, recognizing that words accompany pictures, and that letters make up words. These skills lead to literacy competency once a child enters school. Problem solving is how a child plays with a toy and the child's ability to find a solution to increasingly more difficult problems. Problem solving skills are a step towards a proper understanding of how to tackle problems and thus help a child develop coping skills. Examples of these skills at each stage of development are below:

3 Months-begins to notice colourful, interactive, chunky books, likes cloth books

6 to 12 Months-grabs at colourful, interactive board books, begins to listen to stories for a very short period of time, likes books with photos of other babies and familiar objects, likes to put books in mouth

12 to 24 Months-likes sturdy books they can carry and flip the pages, enjoys books with children doing familiar things, books with few words on a page, simple rhymes and predictable text, animal books, begins to grab at pencils, etc, and tries to scribble

2 to 3 Years-enjoys books that tell simple stories, likes rhyming books and ones that are simple to memorize, books about counting, alphabet, shapes and sizes, beginning to draw and colour, looks like scribbling but the child can tell you what they are creating

3 to 4 Years-identifying and exploring shapes, letters and numbers, enjoys being read to and will begin to tell their own story or retell a familiar one with the help of an adult, beginning to notice the differences between letters, words and sentences and recognize that print carries meaning, attempts to write letters or their own name

4 to 5 Years- identifies shapes, letters and numbers, enjoys retelling familiar stories and creating one of their own, likes stories about favourite TV characters, recognizes the differences between letters, words and sentences and understands the print on the page carries meaning, print letters and his/her name

Activities you can do with your child to promote Language and Thinking Skills:

-Make muffins or cut out cookies



-Create a list of rhyming words together



-Read a familiar book but leave out common words and have your child fill in the blank

-Show your child how to use a measuring tape and how to read the numbers

-Have your child find shapes, numbers and letters around them and copy them

-Ask your child to identify colours of objects while you are driving to the store

