Vermont Early Learning: Literacy Development

Younger Toddlers

Foundational Reading Skills

Children develop the foundational skills needed for engaging with print, reading and writing.

Print Concepts

1 Point to pictures in a book

2 Turn pages

3 Notice environmental print

Phonological Awareness

4 Listen to and participate in familiar songs, rhymes, and stories

5 Play with different sounds

Phonics and Word Recognition

Emerging

Fluency

Emerging

Reading

2a Engagement with Literature and Informational Text

Children develop “book language” and demonstrate comprehension.

1 Focus attention for short periods of time when read to

2 Use “book babble” when holding a book to mimic sound of reading

3 Demonstrate preference for favorite books

4 Pretend to read and write the way they see parents and others do

5 Request adults to read a favorite book

Writing

Children demonstrate the understanding that writing is a means for communication. With increasing fine motor skills and experiences with literacy, children begin to use writing conventions.

1 Make random marks and some scribbling

2 Use simple writing tools without adult assistance