At-Home Literacy Activities

Families are a child’s first educator and can serve as valuable partners throughout a child’s literacy development. Providing families with quick, easy-to-use activities and strategies to use at home strengthens school-home connections and deepens learning.

PREPARING TO ENGAGE

- Allot time for planning ahead of events so that teachers and support personnel have adequate time to prepare engaging, interactive, sustainable activities.
- Encourage families to take pictures at home or do so at school and have the student provide the words to tell a story. Publish and leave around the community for others to read while waiting.

SCHOOL STRUCTURES

While these are activities that are designed to promote at-home interaction, the school plays an essential role in setting families up for success. Schools can promote at-home family literacy engagement by sharing ideas with families including:

- **Family Book Clubs**
  - Trade books with other families in the class or community.
- **Storytelling**
  - Read and tell stories.
  - Document or write stories.
  - Record stories on a phone.
- **Family Fun or Game Night**
  - Reading is involved in lots of games and activities like charades, board games, or card games.
  - Something as simple and fun as reading directions to a board game provides real-world practice and application.
- **Family Movie Night**
  - Read books first then watch the movie.
- **Table Topics**
  - Place topics in a bowl and pull one each night and discuss.
- **Other at-home activities**
  - Recipes
    - Read the ingredients and steps with your child while cooking a favorite dish.
  - Bedtime reading
    - Let your child select a book that you or they can read aloud.
  - Environmental labels
    - Read road signs, grocery items, and building signs.
    - Label items around home.
- **School-based challenges**
  - Host contests with reading goals in classrooms or school-wide.

TRENDING TECHNOLOGY

- **Living Literature**
  - Tell a tik-tok story
  - Share on Instagram stories
  - Retell a text, chapter, or section using video, props, and creativity
- **Documentaries on Netflix, Hulu, or TV**
  - They often align thematically with literature from school.