

VERMONT EARLY LEARNING STANDARDS

MODULE 3: EVIDENCE-BASED RESOURCES

This list provides you with some additional information to support what you learned in the VELS Module 3: Communication and Expression. Everything here is based on research and evidence in the early childhood field, which means that it is the very best information out there! Links to each item and a short description are included so you can quickly find what will be most helpful to you.

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

The **National Association for the Education of Young Children** offers **resources for families**¹ on supporting your child’s language development. Take a look at these carefully selected resources:

- **12 Ways to Support Language Development for Infants and Toddlers**²: Easy ways to help your child develop both expressive and receptive language.
- **Talk it Up!**³: These simple activities give ideas for having conversations with children at home, in the car, at the grocery store – wherever your family is together. Use them every day to boost vocabulary and understanding of language!
- **Everyone Can Be a Storyteller**⁴: Creative ideas for how to turn everyday activities into stories that your family and child can tell together.

More Than Baby Talk⁵, a project from **Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute**, offers 10 different strategies to boost the language and communication skills of infants and toddlers. Each area includes things you can do together with your child at home and out in your community to help your little one learn how to use and understand language.

Check out **Zero to Three!** This site has many resources that will offer you practical tips to support your child’s language and communication development. The **Language and Communication webpage**⁶, hosts several resources to support your child’s development of sounds, speech, vocabulary, and conversation. If your child is a dual language learner, then Zero to Three has helpful resources for you to take a peek at below!

- **Songs, Rhymes and Fingerplays in English and Spanish**⁷: Spanish translations of traditional American songs for you to experience with your child.
- **It Takes Two: The Root of Language Learning**⁸: Helpful suggestions that encourage your family to talk to each other during every day routines and activities.
- **Tips on Learning to Talk**⁹: Fun activities for talking from birth through age three.

LITERACY DEVELOPMENT

Launching Young Readers – Reading Rockets has published a **Family Guide**¹⁰ for you! The guide includes tips for helping your child get the most out of reading, as well as pointers on working with your school and teachers, ideas for using your local public library, and more. This guide is also available in Spanish, Hmong, and Somali. Additionally, the **Reading Rockets** program has a list of **25 Activities for Reading and Writing Fun**¹¹. The activities are for children from birth to Grade 6 and will help to foster a love of reading and writing in your home.

Zero to Three – The **Language and Communication webpage**¹², has additional resources and activities to help your child develop their reading and writing skills.

- **How to Promote Early Language and Literacy**¹³: This video describes how your child learns literacy and language through everyday activities such as singing and listening to stories.
- **How to Introduce Toddlers and Babies to Books**¹⁴: Family tips on how to share books with your child from birth through age three.
- **Helping Your Child Become a Confident Reader and Writer Starting from Birth**¹⁵: A free, downloadable booklet for you gives families ideas for supporting your child’s early literacy through everyday play, mealtime, talking, and routines, to name a few.
- **Learning to Write and Draw**¹⁶: How your child develops writing and drawing and suggestions for supporting their creative expression.

The **National Association for the Education of Young Children** offers **resources for you**¹⁷ on your child’s literacy development. Take a look at these helpful and carefully selected resources:

- **Support Writing at Home**¹⁸: Everyday, enjoyable ideas for experimenting with writing at home.
- **Everyday Steps to Reading and Writing**¹⁹: Four wonderful ways you can help foster your child’s love of reading and writing.
- **Read Anything and Everything with Your Child**²⁰: What can you use at home to help your child learn to read? Check out this page for inspiring ideas!

The **Center for Early Learning Literacy’s video**²¹ describes how you can support your young child’s early literacy development.

The **Grow Up Reading website**²² has resources and suggestions for supporting your child’s literacy development from birth through grade 3.

LIST OF LINK URLs

- ¹ <https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/for-families>
- ² <http://families.naeyc.org/learning-and-development/reading-writing/12-ways-support-language-development-infants-and-toddlers>
- ³ <http://families.naeyc.org/reading-writing/talk-it-up>
- ⁴ <http://families.naeyc.org/child-development/everyone-can-be-storyteller>
- ⁵ <http://mtbt.fpg.unc.edu/more-baby-talk/10-ways-promote-language-and-communication-skills-infants-and-toddlers>
- ⁶ <https://www.zerotothree.org/early-learning/language-and-communication>
- ⁷ <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/215-songs-rhymes-and-fingerplays-in-english-and-spanish>
- ⁸ <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/298-it-takes-two-the-roots-of-language-learning>
- ⁹ <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/301-tips-on-learning-to-talk>
- ¹⁰ <http://www.readingrockets.org/guides/readingrockets#empower>
- ¹¹ <http://www.readingrockets.org/article/25-activities-reading-and-writing-fun>
- ¹² <https://www.zerotothree.org/early-learning/language-and-communication>
- ¹³ <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/216-how-to-promote-early-language-and-literacy>
- ¹⁴ <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/304-how-to-introduce-toddlers-and-babies-to-books>
- ¹⁵ <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/213-helping-your-child-become-a-confident-reader-and-writer-starting-from-birth#downloads>
- ¹⁶ <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/305-learning-to-write-and-draw>
- ¹⁷ <http://families.naeyc.org/>
- ¹⁸ <http://families.naeyc.org/learning-and-development/reading-writing/support-writing-home>
- ¹⁹ <http://families.naeyc.org/everyday-steps-to-reading-writing>
- ²⁰ <http://families.naeyc.org/read-anything-and-everything-your-child>
- ²¹ http://www.earlyliteracylearning.org/make_room_for_lit.php
- ²² <http://www.growupreading.org/index.php>
- ²³ <https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/for-families>
- ²⁴ <http://families.naeyc.org/learning-and-development/meaningful-art-projects-parents-can-fit-busy-day>
- ²⁵ <http://families.naeyc.org/learning-and-development/music-math-more/playing-music-home>
- ²⁶ <http://families.naeyc.org/learning-and-development/child-development/dressing-halloween-different-pretend-play>