

LITERACY IN Kindergarten

Fostering a love for reading and writing is crucial in preparing children for lifelong learning and success. Our approach exemplifies the Early Years Learning Framework, the learning outcomes of the WA Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines as well as alignment to the current research of best practice in the science of reading. This framework aims to establish expectations for fostering early literacy skills in a supportive, engaging and developmentally appropriate learning environment. It promotes a holistic approach to literacy development with the integration of play and intentional teaching, based on a ratio of 60:40 (60% play and 40% explicit teaching).

Phonological Awareness

- Developmentally appropriate auditory activities tuning students into listening and manipulating sounds
- Short periods of whole class explicit teaching following the Aspiri Scope & Sequence

Knowledge Rich Units

- Thematic units to connect literacy to other learning areas
- Repeated reading of core texts and inclusion of supporting texts to build comprehension of themselves and their world
- Provocations to build content knowledge in areas of student interest
- Facilitate and extend play experiences by introducing new vocabulary and concepts during agency times

Oral Language

- Targeted teaching of semantic skills within planned whole class instruction and small groups/individuals during play based activities
- Integration of expressive and receptive language
- Focus on labelling, similarities/differences and categories
- Provide learning spaces to encourage dramatic play and guided practice during agency time

Fluency

- Songs and games used to practice key skills to automaticity.
- Capitalise on transition times to build proficiency with phonemic awareness and vocabulary development.

Shared Reading

- Integrate storytelling and Interactive read alouds into the every day
- Rich, quality literature shared with whole class, small groups and individual students
- Ask questions about the text to promote comprehension and vocabulary development
- Provide learning spaces to encourage reading exploration

Fine Motor Skills

- Intentional teaching of pre-writing patterns and pencil grip/control
- Peggy Lego program
- Explicit teaching of individual letter formations during agency time

Shared Writing

- Compose written texts with students and model writing processes
- Provide learning spaces to encourage writing exploration
- Encourage spontaneous discussions and writing opportunities based on their planned opportunities and agency time.