



A Joyful Voyage To Literacy

•Shelamie L. Ayala

“Home read Home”

That is one of my principles at home as a mother of three and as a public-school teacher. The key to encouraging reading habits in kids is reading with them at an early age. By reading together often, my children learn firsthand the joys that reading can bring. Reading together is a part of our daily routine, and it is one of our family bonding activities.

I started talking to my children at their young age. I engage them in conversations about their day, ask them questions, tell jokes, and make up stories together. Every time my one-year and five-month-old baby learns a new syllable into words and into a phrase, it's a significant accomplishment for me, and I feel a true sense of fulfillment as a mother. My baby is fond of watching and listening to musical (educational) shows. I started teaching her the sounds of the alphabet as early as six months old. Even during my pregnancies, I used to listen to music, especially nursery rhymes. The most important thing a parent should consider is to avoid “baby talks” to their children. We should talk to them directly in a usual manner with correct words. All these efforts will help them develop essential language skills and help with early literacy.

The journey of a child's literacy begins even before she/he enters the school. During the early stage of my children, I would say they were repeaters. They mimic things

that they would hear from the surrounding people all the time. As a parent, I should lead by example and allow my child to see me regularly reading newspapers, books, and magazines. I even



Maggy regularly reads bedtime stories and answers activity books. She started reading with comprehension at age three.

play word-oriented games with them, to mention some are Boggle (word factory) and Scrabble. When children see adults around them reading and writing in their everyday lives, they're more likely to become readers and writers themselves.

There are lots of things we can do to help our kids to love reading. Simple sharing stories at mealtime builds rich language skills such as vocabulary, self-expression, and comprehension. Creating a cozy reading nook is also a big help.

As a parent and a teacher, I ensure that my kids have ample opportunity to love reading in every way despite the growing influence of today's technology (gadgets) and social media's intense domination.

I tell you, it's not easy to make a child read, but when she does, everything will be more of a joy and less of a task. We must instill in the children that reading brings more than academic skills; it is a skill required for lifelong success.



LITERACY JOURNEY

Preceptors' View Editorial Board 2020-2021

Editor-in-Chief: Michelle M. Felstead, EdD
Associate Editor: Rose Ann S. Cancino

Contributors:

John Silvester A. Alipio
Elmer B. Amansec, EdD
Mirian G. Campos
Liezl S. Cancino, PhD
Mary Ann C. Carrera
Jennifer D. Chuang
Adam D. Decano

Rommel R. Embuido
Edwin R. Ferrer, PhD
Melmar A. Ferrer
Lailani P. Garin
Willy U. Guieb
Glaiza E. Gutierrez
Renante B. Infante
Anthony Romnick B. Junio
Princess Grace M. Kim
Maria Merlinda P. Mariado
Katherine A. Meneses
Jose Myra Joy P. Muyrong
Atty. Jose O. Oviado
Vladimir C. Parayno, PhD

Marissa O. Perez, EdD
Alicia B. Quimboy, PhD
Leonardo D. Soils
Lilian S. Tandoc
Cinderella Q. Tandina
Markconi F. Taroma, PhD
Jerylee P. Tolentino
Charmesh D. Valdez
Noreen B. Vidal
Reymond N. Villare

Layout Artists:
Kristine Grace C. Avelino-Gabris

Cayetano V. Carrera, Jr.
Agnis A. Evangelista
Paul Michael P. Felstead
Alvin N. Gayo
Irene Grabulan
Lucky Allan C. Valle

Consultants:

Agnes B. Royulada, EdD
Maria Linda R. Ventenilla
Edilberto R. Abalos EdD
Ma. Criselda G. Ochang, CESE
Aguedo C. Fernandez, CESO VI

