

Print Concepts

This Really Good Stuff kit was written and created by our product developers who are also former classroom teachers. Using their classroom knowledge and experience, they carefully chose each item in the kit to help develop and strengthen children's reading and writing skills and fluency through repeated practice. Repeated practice has been shown to not only build confidence, but also independence.

Items in this kit cover a variety of levels within the specific skill(s). Feel free to skip-around or use the items in whichever order is best for the child or children you are working with. After all the items have been mastered, children should be able to work confidently within the skills, as well as to expand on them.

Print Concepts are skills that lay the foundation for a life-long love of reading and writing. Many language skills are built upon this foundation throughout a child's education.

Print Concepts refer to Pre-Reading and Early Reading Skills like:

- Understanding that print (letters, words, and sentences) conveys a meaning to the reader
- Parts of a book
- Directionality (left to right, top to bottom, return sweep)
- Alphabet and letter recognition

Print Concepts refer to Pre-Writing and Early Writing Skills like:

- Letter Formation
- Sequencing (first, middle, last)
- Keeping space between words
- Punctuation at the end of sentences

Tips to Build Reading and Writing Skills

There are many ways that children can build their reading and writing skills and fluency:

- Read together! If children think adults enjoy reading, it may encourage them to enjoy reading as well!
- Encourage children to try reading different types of books and writings to discover which they enjoy reading most!
- Encourage persistence and a growth mindset. Help children realize that sometimes it takes time to learn new letters, words, and ideas, but with practice, it will become easier.
- Encourage children to try drawing or writing down their ideas at any level to bring out their inner authors!
- Play word games that encourage speech and language – most games do!
- Show children that language is everywhere and part of everyday life by pointing out all the times you use reading whenever they are near (e.g., reading street and road signs, restaurant menus, descriptions when buying items online, recipes, instructions, text messages).
- Be open for discussions. If a child is having a hard time, encourage them to talk through their issues with adults.