



But as they develop an understanding of the alphabetic principle, children begin to process letters, translate them into sounds, and connect this information with a known meaning. Although it may seem as though some children acquire these understandings magically or on their own, studies suggest that they are the beneficiaries of considerable, though playful and informal, adult guidance and instruction (Durkin 1966; Anbar 1986)



We Love Literacy

Preschool Experiences

Zoo-phonics works to involve parents in the education of their children.

Play-Based Method for Teaching Pre-Reading Skills

Storybook Village Preschool chose the award-winning *Zoo-phonics Multisensory Language Arts Program* to supplement our emergent curriculum, promoting language and literacy learning and development in our preschool component. We want families to FEEL Zoo-phonics, just as the children and educators do with the curriculum.

California Preschool Learning Foundations

Our Storybook educators have participated in a Zoo-phonics workshop to be the ones to bring compelling research from neuroscience into our program and families' homes. SVP uses *The California Preschool Learning Foundations (PLFs)* as a resource and a guide to support our classrooms in their efforts to foster learning in all young children. The PLFs describe learning and development with developmentally appropriate expectations with appropriate support within a high-quality preschool program. Zoo-phonics is aligned to the state's preschool foundations as a playful, physical, concrete, and memorable approach to learning!

For more information about literacy in the early years and what research suggests, read *Learning to Read and Write: Developmentally Appropriate Practices for Young Children*, a joint position statement of the International Reading Association and the National Association for the Education of Young Children.



Bubba Bear goes home, each week with a preschooler, to support our home-school connections and share learning adventures through family engagement!



Dear Storybook Village Preschool Families,

Zoo-phonics teaches the sequence of learning according to the natural development of the child: listening first, and then speaking, reading and writing. Zoo-phonics uses the language that the child has already developed, and connects it to the sounds of the alphabet.

This is how Storybook Village Preschool supports each child's language and literacy development by providing a continuity of learning experience from infancy to preschool!

Infants: *Listening & Babbling Stage!* Singing and memicing sounds with board books and meaningful interactions.

Toddlers: *Speaking Stage!* Memorizing nursery rhymes and simple poems with Sensory Singing Baskets and Music & Movement. The "language explosion" time is exciting for adults to see first hand how language is developed and how each child learns.

Preschoolers: *Reading & Writing Stage!*

1. We teach the Shapes and Sounds of the Alphabet through the Animal Pictures and Body Signals. We have a "Sound of the Week" to allow time for mastery.
2. We read aloud stories to the children. Through this, they develop basic concepts of print such as directionality, one-to-one correspondence of sounds to words, and relating speech to reading.
3. We promote cognitive and critical thinking skills through reading aloud and oral language experiences.

It won't be long before your child will actually be reading and spelling small but important words!

Love,

Storybook Early Educators