## STAR - Sit Together and Read

#### Summary Zoom

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Workshop #98388 STAR Sit Together and Read

## Objectives

- Develop an understanding of how STAR Read-Aloud Practices increase children's print knowledge
- Understand how STAR Read-Aloud Practices can be implemented during whole-group shared book reading
- Identify and understand the STAR domains

# Emergent Literacy

What Does Emergent Literacy Look Like?

 Emergent Literacy is defined as the process that begins at birth and continues to the end of preschool and includes precursors to the onset of reading, such as concepts, skills and knowledge that precede the achievement of conventional literacy.



## **Emergent Literacy**

#### What Does Emergent Literacy Look Like in Young Children?

Emergent Literacy is an initial step on the pathway to reading achievement Emergent-Literacy skills are the specific abilities and interest that children acquire before they become conventional readers.





Emergent-Literacy skills are the specific abilities and interest that children acquire before they become conventional readers.



Pretending to write

Pretending to read

Naming letters

"Reading" print in environment

Writing own name

Asking questions about print

Playing with sound patterns

Print knowledge is children's developing knowledge about the forms and functions of print. By the time children enter kindergarten, they have a great deal of knowledge about print!

Print knowledge is an emergent-literacy skill that reflects the young child's emerging knowledge of the forms and functions of print.



STAR read-aloud practices are designed to enhance print knowledge.

### Print Knowledge – Strategies for Engagement

https://star.ehe.osu.edu/professional-development/pdbackground/print-knowledge/



Print Knowledge

Children who have well-developed print knowledge know that:

- Print is meaningful
- Print defers from other symbols
- Print has many rules
- Letters are important symbols
- Letters make up words
- Letters correspond to sounds

## PRINT KNOWLEDGE INCLUDES:



Alphabet Knowledge: children's recognition of the individual letters in the alphabet, including both upperand lower-case forms.



**Print-Concept Knowledge:** children's understanding of the many rules that govern print (e.g., we read from left to right, we punctuate sentences).



Print knowledge is one of the more consistent and unique predictors of children's later reading achievement. Print knowledge refers to children's developing knowledge about the forms and functions of print.

## Why Focus on Print

Children with solid knowledge about the forms and functions of print will find it relatively easy to learn to read.





Children with limited knowledge about print enter kindergarten already behind in reading development.

Children acquire print knowledge by discovering print in fun and organized ways.

Print experiences can occur through interactions with the environment, such as playing and engaging with letters and words, and by thinking and talking about the meaning of print.



### Why Focus on Print Prior to Schooling?

With this study, children's alphabet knowledge (letter identification subtest) was most strongly associated with future performance on the state's third-grade reading assessment.





**Book reading helps to build** relationships between adults and children. It also allows for children to learn about the world they live in, learn important concepts about society and people, and build their vocabulary and understanding of narrative sequences and interesting sound patterns.







- Build children's print knowledge through shared storybook reading.
- Early experiences with books provide opportunities to develop print knowledge.
- Shared book reading is an early learning experience that can expand a child's knowledge of print.

- Adults can modify the way they read with children to focus their attention on print.
- Book-reading experiences in any setting, provide explicit opportunities for children to engage with print concepts.



## Can you find the . \chocolate, Sp

Adults can explicitly help children to look beyond the pictures when looking at storybooks, and also to attend to print in the book.

This image shows a child's visual attention to print when looking at a storybook. The black dots are her visual fixations when looking at the pages of a book. As you can see, this child (like most preschoolers) focuses almost exclusively on the pictures.

https://star.ehe.osu.edu/profes sional-development/

**STAR Read-Aloud Practices** 

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### Research shows:

- Children rarely pay attention to print during shared book reading unless directed to do so.
- Adults can use strategies to encourage children's attention on print and by doing so can improve children's print knowledge.
- We call this **print** referencing.

### How Print referencing during shared bookreading supports emergent literacy development.



 <u>https://star.ehe.osu.edu/professi</u> onal-development/pdbackground/pd-why-bookreading/

### Verbal & Non-Verbal References to Print

How do we cultivate a focus on print for our children?
✓ Verbal references: Asking questions and making comments about print.

### Verbal & Non-Verbal References to Print

How do we cultivate a focus on print for our children?

 Nonverbal references: Pointing and tracking print with our fingers.

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Demonstration of a teacher using explicit print-referencing techniques when reading the storybook *When Sophie Gets Angry, Really, Really Angry* to a group of children.



https://star.ehe.osu.edu/professionaldevelopment/pd-background/pd-why-book-reading/





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- Print referencing can be used by any adult—parent, educator, SLP, librarian, child-care provider—when reading with children.
- Print referencing improves print knowledge in children who are typically-developing as well as those with learning concerns, including children with disabilities.
- Intentionally directing a child's focus to print during shared book reading is the key to making print referencing successful.



https://star.ehe.osu.edu/2016/09/29/print-referencing-with-specialpopulations/ STAR Read-Aloud Practices are based on print referencing.

It's designed to boost children's print knowledge.

Print-referencing helps develop emergent-literacy skills for preschoolers

These techniques have been shown to be particularly beneficial for special population – children living in poverty, developmental disabilities, culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds



## Research

#### **Essential Instructional Practices in Early Literacy**

https://star.ehe.osu.edu/files/2017/04/Pr e-K-Literacy-Essentials-PDF.pdf Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators General Education Leadership Network Early Literacy Task Force (2016). Essential instructional practices in early literacy: Prekindergarten. Lansing, MI: Authors Reading and Writing materials are not only present but used throughout the classroom environment

These ten practices used in the classroom daily will make a measurable positive difference in literacy achievement.

https://star.ehe.osu.edu/files/2017/04 /Pre-K-Literacy-Essentials-PDF.pdf



## Group Activity



https://star.ehe.osu.edu/files/2017/ 04/Pre-K-Literacy-Essentials-PDF.pdf



- Each person will review one of the ten practices
- Summarize it on chart paper
- Be ready to share with whole group.



- Print-rich books
- Explicit discussions about print
- Scope & sequence of instruction





### Ingredient #1: Print-Rich Books

#### How do I know if a book is print-rich?











STAR Style	Typical Style
"The title of this book is "Vegetable Soup."	"What do you think this book is about?
"What do you think this word is?"	"This book is about a garden."
"Yep, that says, 'carrot' on the garden marker."	"Here he's got a shovel."
"Look at these tiny words here. They say 'tomato' and 'peas.'"	"What's he digging up?"

https://star.ehe.osu.edu/professional-development/pd-background/pd-why-bookreading/star-read-aloud-practices/

#### Ingredient #3: Scope and Sequence of Instruction



ADD A F

1. Conduct pre- and postassessments using 2. Follow the 30 week book reading plan 3. Read the scheduled book 4x per week and use STAR cards to guide your reading 4. Monitor your progress using reading log

### STAR - Sit Together and Read

#### Implementation



### STAR develops four areas of print knowledge

https://star.ehe.osu.edu/professional-development/dbackground/pd-why-book-reading/star-read-alg/d-practices/starimplementation/star-reading-practices/

## Print-Knowledge Instruction

Cyclical Sequence – print targets are presented over and over again.

## This reinforces through repetition.




### Words are the basic, meaningful unit of print.

https://star.ehe.osu.edu/professionaldevelopment Knowledge of words as units of print that correspond to spoken language:

- · Concept of word in print
- · Words are made of letters
- Written words map to spoken words



Take a look at the stop sign below. Here are some print references that elicit discussions around words:





"Is this a word?" "What does this word say?" "This words says 'stop'." "This word here is a very long word."



Letters vs. Words Knowledge that written words are different from letters and that words have meaning



Word Identification Knowledge of some high-frequency words in print (including name)



Knowledge that written words are units of print and comprised of differing numbers of letters







ADD A FOOTER



#### Target: Letters vs. Words Teacher: How many letters are in the word "excuse"? Chris, I bet you'll know this because we counted the letters in this word yesterday!

Chris: 1-2-3-4-5-6

Teacher: Good job! Those six letters make up the word "excuse."



Target: Word Identification Teacher: John, this word says, "whee!" Let's point to it and say it together! I bet we'll see this word again. Remember what it looks like so you can help me read it on the next page!



#### Target: Short Words vs. Long Words

Teacher: Look at this boy. It looks like he's jumping up and down! This word (points to "excited") is a long word. It has (begins counting) seven letters in it. Is "excited" a long word or a short word, do you think?

The STAR card help guide you by providing examples for how to discuss specific print targets within the context of the book you are reading.

# Letters

- Letters are the basic graphic unit that are combined to form words.
- There are 26 letters in English, with each occurring in an upper- and lower-case format.

https://star.ehe.osu.edu/professionaldevelopment/

Knowledge of the distinctive features and names of individual letters:

- · letters make up words
- · names of the letters
- · metalinguistic concept of letter
- · letters map to sounds





# Letters



• Print references that elicit discussions around letters:

- "Point to the T."
- "What are the names of these letters?"
- "See if you can find an upper-case letter on this page."
- "This letter is the first letter in your name!"



Letter Names Knowledge of the names and written symbols for the individual letters



#### Upper- and Lower-Case Forms

Knowledge that letters come in two forms and there are rules regarding when to use these forms (e.g., proper names are capitalized)



#### Metalinguistic Concept of Letter

Knowledge about the functions of letters (i.e., what letters do)

# Letter Targets



# STAR Target Examples



#### Target: Letter Names

**Teacher:** This is the letter **A** (*points to the* **A**). This is the letter **B** (*points to* **B**). Who can show me where the **A** is?



#### Target: Metalinguistic Concept of Letter

**Teacher:** The word "**jungle**" starts with the letter **J**. Jacob knows this because it's the first letter in his name! What other words do you know that start with the letter **J**?



When children understand book and print knowledge, they understand that the print has its own organization scheme (e.g., move from left to right) and that print is organized in specific genres.





Page Order: Knowledge about the order in which book pages are read

Title of Book: Knowledge about the role of the title and the



Print Direction: Knowledge that reading in English must occur from left to right

### **Book and Print Organization Targets**

### **Target Examples**

#### Target: Author

**Teacher:** Peter, let's point together at the author's name on the cover. (*Teacher and child point together at the author's name*)

Teacher: The author wrote the book. Chris Raschka is the author.

# Baghead

#### Target: Print Direction

**Teacher:** When we start reading this book, will we read this way (*runs finger right to left over print*) or this way (*runs finger left to right over print*)?

Child: This way (runs finger left to right).

Teacher: Yes! It would be silly if we tried to read the other way. We wouldn't know what the story said!



#### Target: Top and Bottom of the Page

**Teacher:** Let's take a look at the cover of this book. Is this the top of the page (*points to the bottom*)?

Child: No!

**Teacher:** Is this the top of the page (points to the top of the page)?

Child: Yes!

Leo Lionni A Color of His Own

#### Target: Title of Book

Teacher: Where do you think we can find the title of the book?

Child: On the front of the book.

**Teacher:** Absolutely, the title is on the front of the book, and then we can also see it on the title page.

### **Target Examples**



#### Target: Page Order

Teacher: Now that I've read the first page, I want to keep reading. Which way should I turn the page? Child: This way! Teacher: Exactly! I turn the pages to the left to read the story.

# Target Examples



- Print is different than pictures
- Print has specific rules
- Metalinguistic concept of reading

# Print Meaning

Print is an object worthy of attention, and print carries meaning.

The objective of this domain is that children show interest in print, including specific words and letters, in highly contextualized depictions.

When children begin to understand print, they recognize that print provides meaning to events.

### **Print Meaning Targets**



#### Metalinguistic Concept of Reading

Knowledge that reading is an act in which persons engage for various purposes



#### Print Function

Knowledge that the function of print is to convey meaning

# Target Examples

 The STAR cards help guide you by providing examples for how to discuss specific print targets within the context of the book you are reading.



#### Target: Metalinguistic Concept of Reading

Teacher: We're reading a book right now, just like how Rufus is reading his favorite book. Does anyone know why we read stories? Let's come up with some ideas together about what we might learn about Rufus and his first day of school. All students can achieve at a high level and it is our collective responsibility to provide the extra time and support to ensure that outcome.

# Scaffolding in STAR

### LOCATING THE ZPD

What the student cannot do, even with assistance

What the student can do with assistance (Level of Potential Development)

# ZPD

What the student can do independently (Level of Actual Development) Increasing Task Difficulty Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD)

Scaffolding is often ascribed to the Russian Psychologist Lev Vygotsky (1978)

**Vygotsky's** theory of instruction emphasizes the need to offer instruction that exceeds a child's current ability; this mechanism is termed scaffolding.

**Vygotsky** believed that the purpose of teaching was to help children develop skills that they had yet to grasp; thus, instruction must precede development rather than follow it.

### ZPD and Scaffolding



https://star.ehe.osu.edu/professional-development/pd-background/pd-why-book-reading/starread-aloud-practices/pd-scaffolding/



https://star.ehe.osu.edu/professional-development

# Why is Scaffolding Important?

Educators need to be sensitive to what a child cannot do and then support the child to do it.

It is important that the selected method of scaffolding empowers a child not frustrate him.

"Scaffolding is most effective when it helps children perform at a level that is much higher than what they can do alone, rather than moving children incrementally along the path of learning and development." (Justice & Pence, Scaffolding with Storybooks, pg.9) STAR suggests teachers use two sets of scaffolding strategies

- High-support strategies: Use these with children who are struggling with a specific concept or task and need support to be successful.
- Low-support strategies: Use these with children who are finding a specific concept of task relatively simple and need to be challenged





### LOW SUPPORT

Provided when a child has nearly mastered a skill and needs to be challenged



#### HIGH SUPPORT

Provided when a child is struggling and needs a significant amount of help to complete a task



# Examples

#### LOW SUPPORT STRATEGIES

#### Generalizing

Prompts children to extend the lesson content beyond the lesson itself-to past or future personal experiences.

Teacher: Christy, you knew where we started reading last time. Can you come up and show me the page where I start to read?

#### Reasoning

Prompts children to explain why something happened or will happen, or to explain why something is the way it is.



#### HIGH SUPPORT STRATEGIES

#### **Co-Participating**

Prompts children to produce a correct answer by completing the task with another person.

Teacher: Which one is an uppercase letter? This one (points to an upper-case letter T) or this one (points to a lower-case letter t)?

#### Eliciting the Answer

Prompts children to produce a correct answer to a task by providing an exact model of the ideal response.

Teacher: Joe, let's point to the top of the page together.

#### **Reducing Choices**

Prompts children to complete a task by reducing the number of choices of correct answers.

Teacher: This is the title of the book. It is made up of 3 words. Devon, how many words is the title made up of?

Teacher: Sarah, you knew that this word school on the sign was the same as the word **school** in this sentence. How did you know that?

#### Predicting

Prompts children to describe what might happen next or to hypothesize the outcome of an event/activity.

# Scaffolding Research



https://star.ehe.osu.edu/professional-development/pd-background/pd-why-book-reading/starread-aloud-practices/pd-scaffolding/why-is-scaffolding-important/

# Sample STAR Card

https://star.ehe.osu.edu/professi onal-development



**Context**: If you want to use this exact example, here is where to find the page in the book.

Script: We provide a script for you to use during the book reading if you want some inspiration!  $_{62}$ 



- How can STAR cards be helpful to educators?
- A STAR card is a specialized resource for STAR Read-Aloud Practices and can be created to match any book. The 30 free STAR cards included on this website match 30 books used in previous STAR projects. Each card cites two print knowledge targets and four scaffolding examples for each target. There are two examples of both High- and Low-Support Scaffolding for each target.
- STAR Cards offer suggestions of scaffolding techniques that teachers can use as they read storybooks with their children, but teachers should not feel constrained by the cards. Teachers can use the STAR cards for support until they feel comfortable incorporating their own scaffolding techniques throughout the reading



- Look through your STAR Cards
- With the book that was provided.
- Review the schedule with the cards



### Learners' Ladders Help you Differentiate

- Too Easy!
- Just Right!
- Too Hard!





High Support If the Activity is Too Hard

- Eliciting: Provides children with the correct answer to a task by providing an exact model of the ideal response
- Co-Participating: Provides children with the correct answer to a task through their completion of the task with another person – the teacher or a peer
- Reducing Choices: Helps children to complete a task by reducing the number of choices of correct answers



### **Eliciting: Examples**

"Rug and hug rhyme. Do rug and hug rhyme?" "Fan and phone both begin with the 'ffff' sound. Do fan and phone begin with the same 'fff' sound?"



### **Eliciting: Let's Practice!**

Eliciting	Your Turn
Cathy, look- the letters are	
in the coconut tree! Where	
are the letters?	







### **Co-Participating**

"This is the jaw on the animal. That's a new vocabulary word – jaw. Angela, say that word with me...jaw."

"Jose, bat and cat rhyme. Let's say it together: bat, cat."



### **Co-Participating: Let's Practice!**

Co-participating	Your Turn
These words say	
Chicka Chicka Boom	
Boom. I'll point and	
say each word-	
Rashaun, read them	
with me.	



The Reducing Choices Strategy

- Use to teach new words
- Limit the number of options; 2-3 choices presented
- Helps child to focus on the correct answer: Increase likelihood of participation


Its important that the correct answer is always provided for the child. Whether its in the form of an adult correction, or a repetition of the child's correct response.

*Teacher:* I'm looking for the picture on this page of a *racket*. Is this a *racket* (points to a picture of a tennis racket) or is this a *racket* (points to the picture of a tennis ball)?

*Child:* That one (points to the picture of a racket). *Teacher:* You are right, that's the *racket*. Let's say it together...*racket*.



Think about when Katie Sue was howling at the other children. Did she howl at them when she was angry or happy?

"Romping means to run around and play. Would the children be romping around in the classroom or on the playground?"



## **Reducing Choices: Examples**

Think about when Katie Sue was howling at the other children. Did she howl at them when she was angry or happy? "Romping means to run around and play. Would the children be romping around in the classroom or on the playground?"



### **Reducing Choices: Let's Practice!**

Reducing Choices	Your Turn	
Cathy, were the letters		
in a coconut tree or in		
a house?		



## Low Support If the Activity is Too Easy

- Reasoning: Asks children to explain why something happened or will happen, or to explain why something is the way it is
- Generalizing: Asks children to extend the lesson content beyond the lesson itself – to past or future personal experiences
- **Predicting:** asks children to describe what might happen next or to hypothesize the outcome of an event/activity



"Some animals have big jaws and some animals have small jaws. Why may animals have different size jaws?"

"Melissa, look at this page. It has only pictures. Why can't I read this page?"



Reasoning	Your Turn	
All the big letters came to		
rescue the little letters. Where		
do you think the big letters		
were? Why weren't they		
climbing the tree with the		
little letters?		



"Tell me about a time when you saw someone howling because he or she was mad or upset."

"We talked about rhymes before. Do you remember what a rhyme is?"



# **Generalizing: Let's Practice!**

Generalizing	Your Turn
"Words in the book tell us the story. In	
our room, words give us information	
about people in our class. An	
important word is your name. If you	
see your name on something, what	
does it tell you about that thing?"	



#### **Predicting: Examples**

"What will happen next?" "What do you think they will find?"



## **Predicting: Let's Practice!**

Predicting	Your Turn
We just learned that the	
word chicka has two parts –	
chick-a. Do you think the	
word boom has more or less	
parts than the word chicka?	



# Questions?



ADD A FOOTER

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