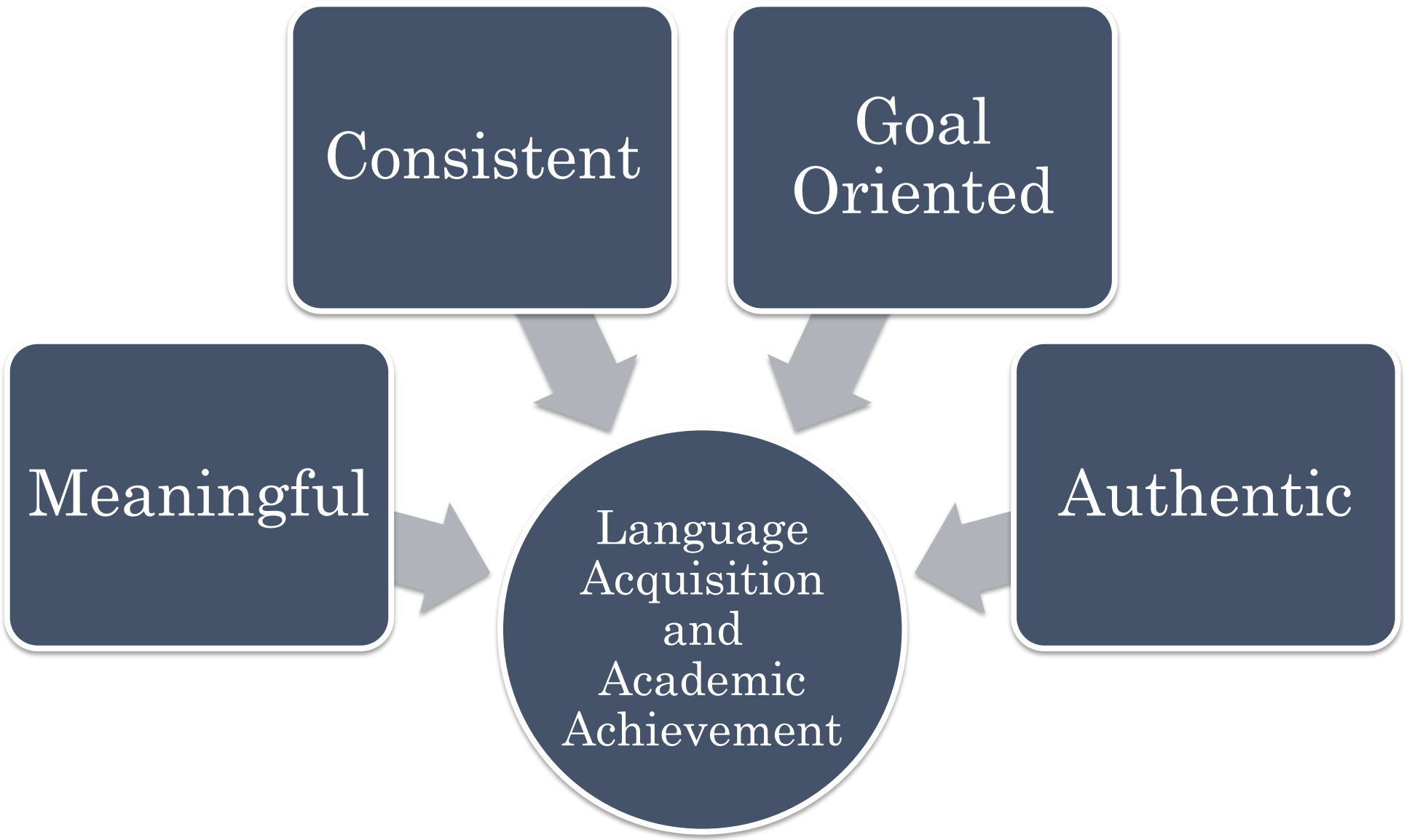
It Isn’t Snack . . .
It’s Language with Food!

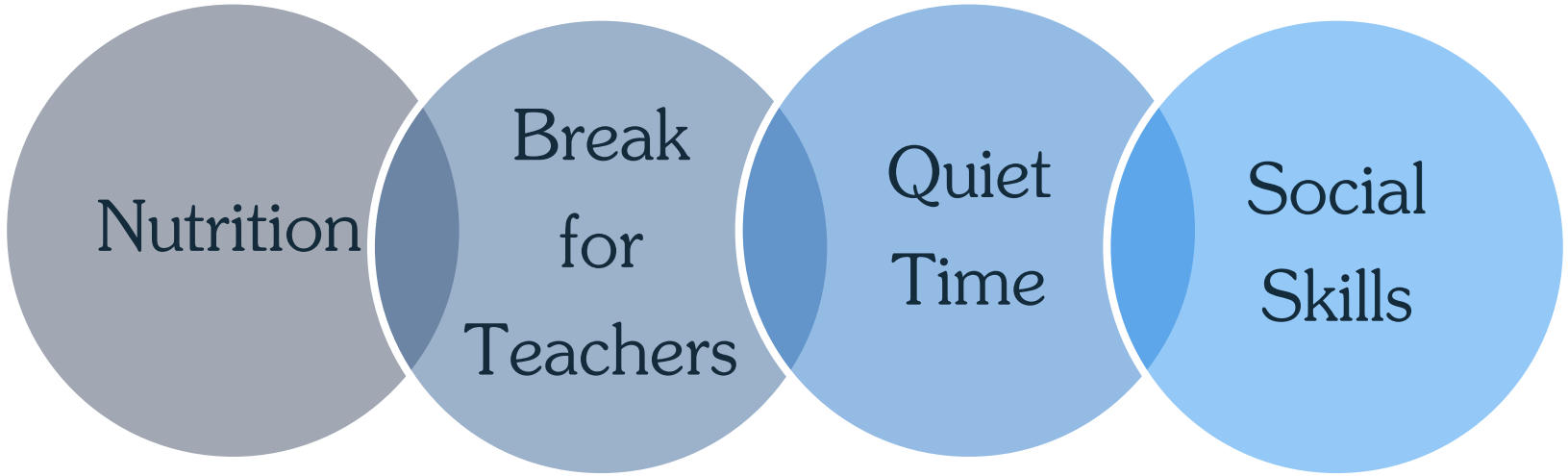
Amber Saeli, M.Ed. candidate
Lauri Nelson, Ph.D.
Sarah Law, M.Ed.

EMMA ECCLES JONES
COLLEGE of EDUCATION
and HUMAN SERVICES
UtahStateUniversity

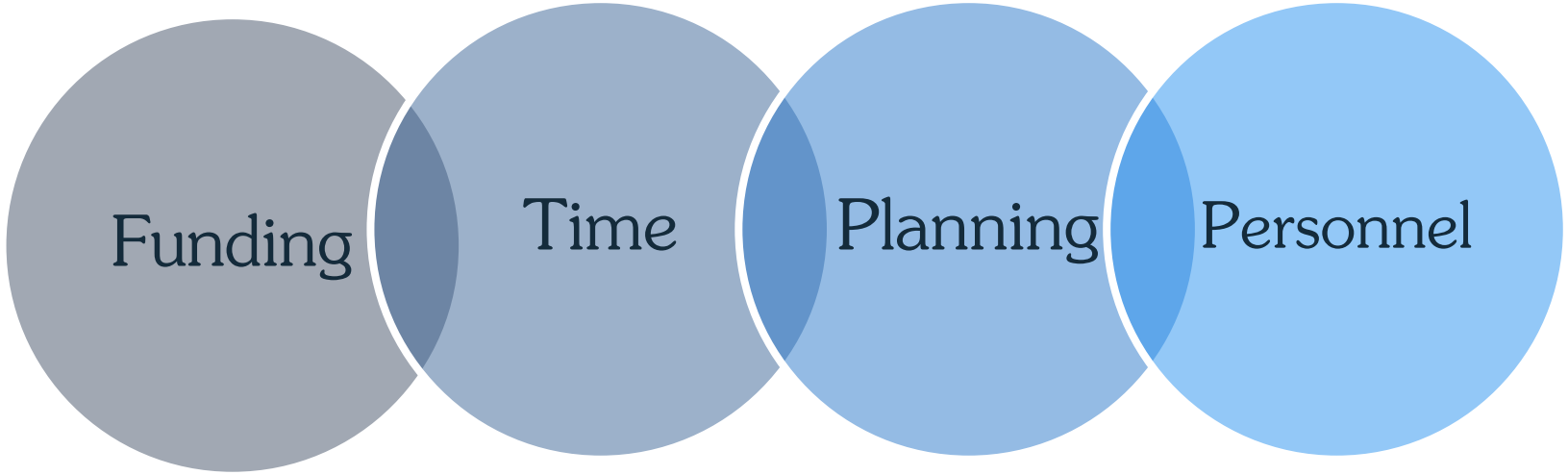

Consistent
Goal Oriented
Meaningful
Language Acquisition and Academic Achievement
Authentic

Throughout the day- including snack times at school and in the home!

Common purposes of Snack Time in Preschool



Realistic considerations of Snack Time in Preschool



But – when we think of it as "Language with Food", we can facilitate:

- meaningful connections
- new vocabulary opportunities
- complex critical thinking skills
- conversational turns
- natural opportunities for language skill development

Questions to keep in mind:

What language do you see happening?

What connections are being made?

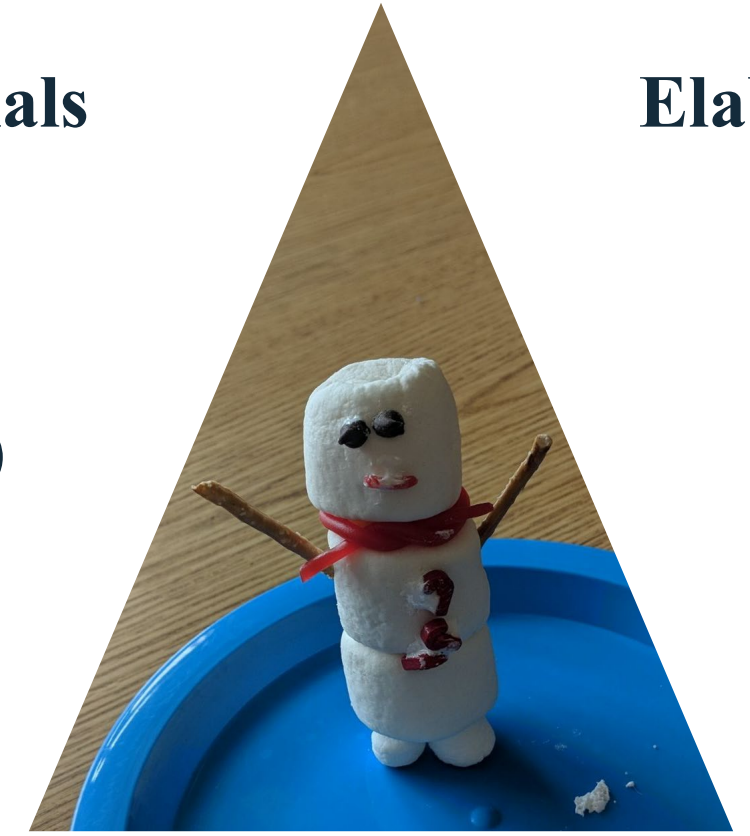
How is this a language with food experience?

Thoughts?

Let's Make Snack

Typical snack materials

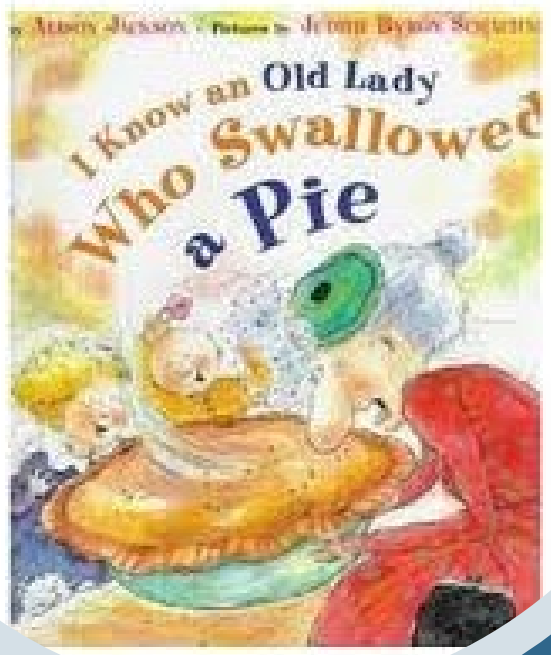
- Pretzels
- Crackers
- Drink (milk/juice)
- Fruit snacks

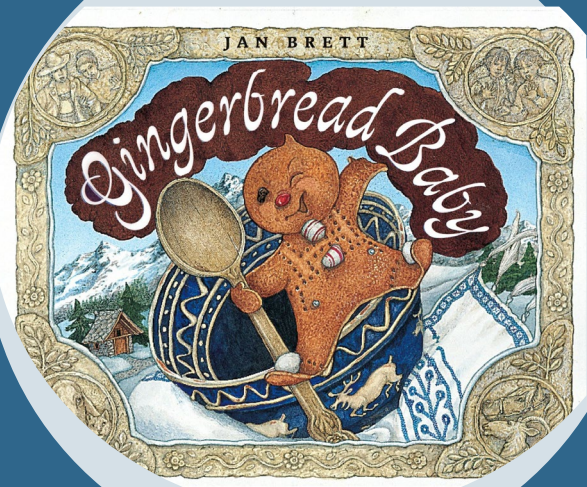


Elaborate / themed materials

- Marshmallows
- Pretzels
- Chocolate chips
- Licorice

How can we turn these into "language with food"?





Themed Snack Examples

I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Pie, written by Alison Jackson and illustrated by Judith Byron Schachner

- **Turkey Roll-ups**
  - Small flour tortillas, sliced deli turkey, cream cheese, craft sticks/plastic knife

Gingerbread Baby, by Jan Bret

- **Gingerbread Graham Cracker**
  - Graham crackers, peanut butter, raisins, granola, popcorn, dried fruits, nuts

Pete's a Pizza, by William Steig

- **Bagel Pizza**
  - Bagel, tomato sauce, pizza topping, toaster oven, tongs, oven mitts

(Bannister, Preston, & Primozich, 2006)

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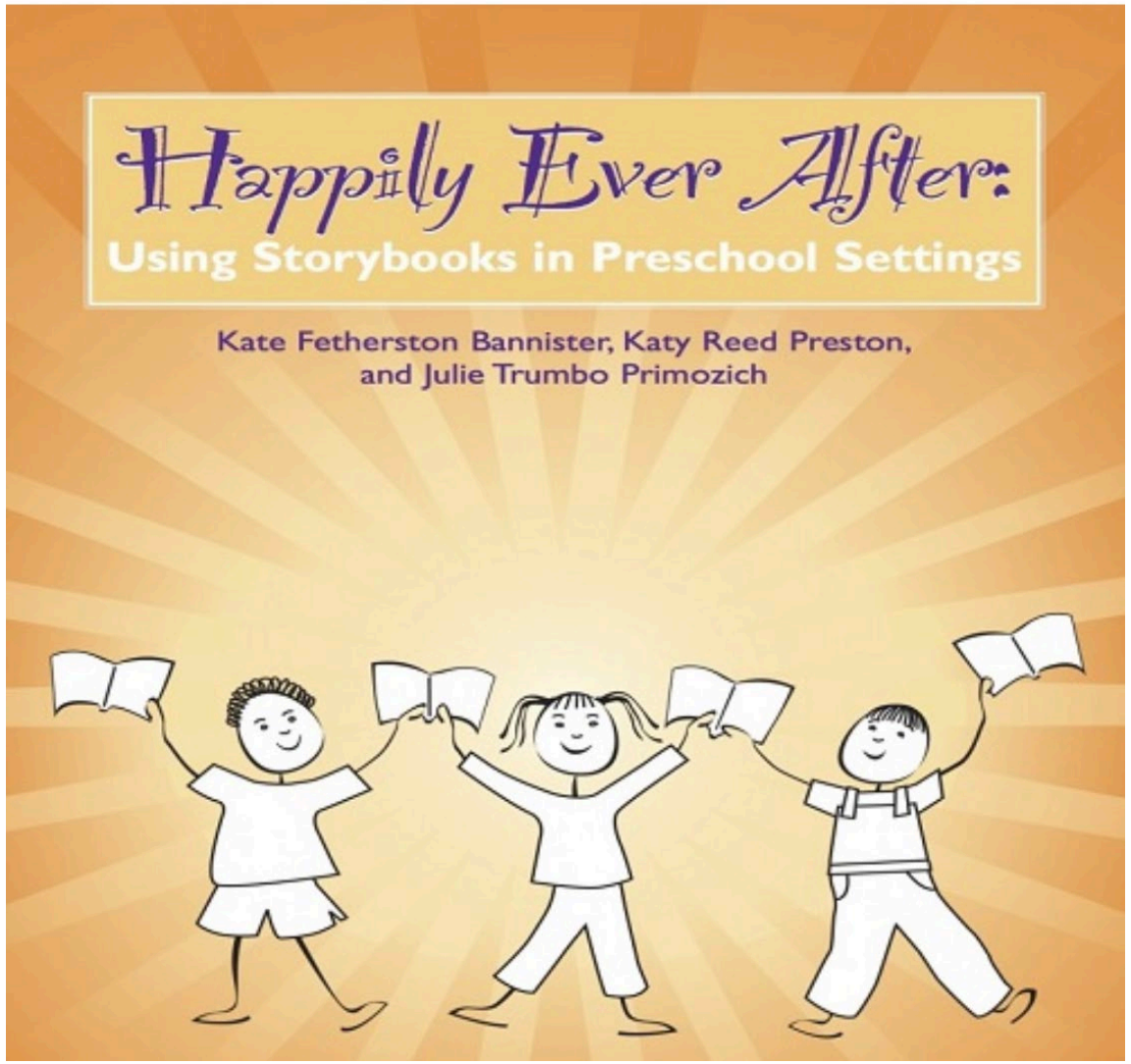
THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

For more information, please contact:

Amber Saeli – amber.Saeli@aggiemail.usu.edu

Lauri Nelson – lauri.nelson@usu.edu

Sarah Law – sarah.law@usu.edu

References:

Bannister, K. F., Preston, K. R., & Primozich, J. T. (2006). *Happily Ever After: Using Storybooks in Preschool Settings*. Hillsoboro, OR: Butte Publications