



# Literacy Activities for Infants and Toddlers

Lyra Repplinger MS



# Agenda

- Dialogic Reading
- Communication Stages in relation to literacy activities
- Literacy Activity with Parents



# The importance of literacy

- Bonding with parents
- Introduction to listening and language
- Targets joint attention
- Targets meaningful eye gaze
- Increase vocabulary

Is this the only way to read to a child?



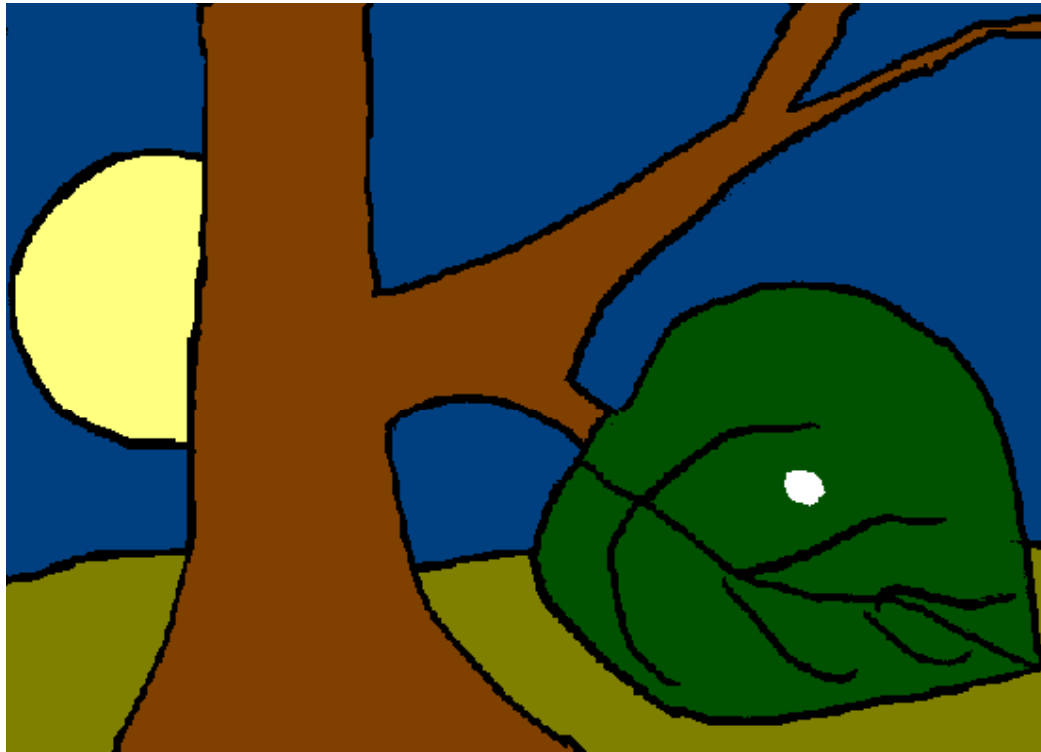
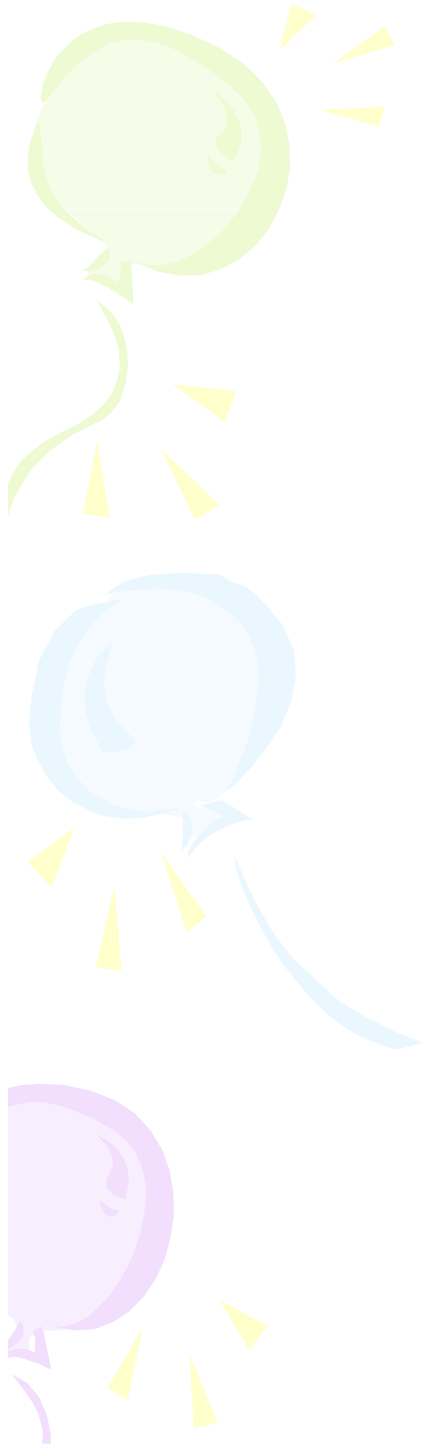
# Dialogic Reading



- Taking the child's lead
- Not worrying about reading words on the page
- Labeling familiar items
- Having a conversation
- Can also be called **BOOK SHARING**

“In the light of the moon, a little egg lay on a leaf.”







# Stages of Communication

- Discoverers
- Communicators
- First Word Users
- Combiners

It Takes Two to Talk  
Pepper J., Weitzman E.  
The Hanen Program



A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide features three balloons: a light green one at the top, a light blue one in the middle, and a light purple one at the bottom. Each balloon has a string and several small yellow triangular shapes radiating from it, suggesting movement or light. The balloons are arranged vertically and partially overlap.

# Discoverers

- Reacts to how they feel and what is happening around them.
- Tired Cry. Hungry Cry.
- Cooing and Babbling.
- Joint attention is established.



# Communicators

- Realizing cause and effect.
- Begins to send messages via pointing, gestures and making sounds with a specific purpose in mind.



# First Word Users

- Uses one word to express a whole message.
- Vocabulary development.





# Combiner

- Using two word combinations to convey a message.
- May start to understand simple questions.



- The Communication Stages and Hearing Loss

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- Can be in different stage of communication depending on amplification or cochlear implantation.
  - Parents and therapist can be aware of the stage of communication and help them with how they are going to participate in book sharing with their child.
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# Book Sharing

- Book sharing and dialogic reading can look different depending on what stage of communication the child is in.

It's not always going to look like this!



# Parent's Concerns regarding Literacy with their child

- Child does not sit long enough to finish the story
- The child is not interested in the content of the book.
- The child wants to hold the book







# Literacy Activity for Parents

- The Critique
- The Creation

# Parent's Literacy Critique

- Parent's chose children's books and shared what they thought were positive and negative aspects about that particular book.





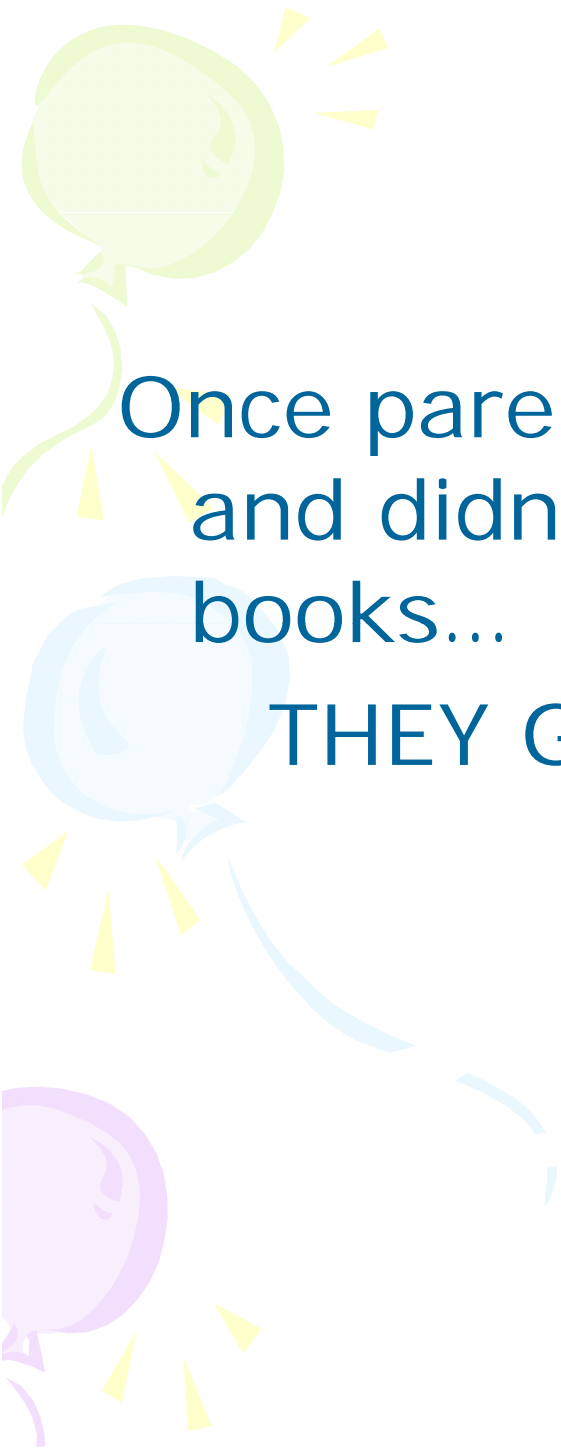
# Negative Findings

- Story was too long
- Story had unrealistic pictures
- Flimsy book



# Positive Findings

- Realistic Pictures
- Sturdy Board books
- Good size- the child would be able to easily hold the book
- Familiar content
- Appropriate length of story



Once parents knew what they liked  
and didn't like about children's  
books...

**THEY GOT TO WORK...**





# Personalized Picture Board Books

- Children are interested in their pictures
- Easier for parents to have a conversation about a picture of their child.
- Using pictures from a child's experience enhances vocabulary.



# Topics of Books

- My Favorite Things
- Opposites Book
- My Family
- A Day in the Life





# Materials

- Blank Board Books

- [www.barebooks.com](http://www.barebooks.com)

- Adhesive

- Scrap paper

- Clear Contact paper to laminate the book if you wish.

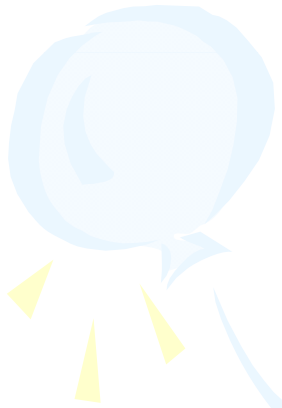




# Why Board Books?

- Sturdy
- Feels and looks the same as other books
- Personalization makes it **VERY** attractive to children

# Finding photos for your books.



Small, illegible text or watermark.

Small, illegible text or watermark.

Small, illegible text or watermark.

Small, illegible text or watermark.



# Taking the action shots for a child's story book

Using action pictures instead of posed pictures lend itself to more language opportunities and vocabulary.

Taking multiple pictures allows you to capture the action and the emotion of the event.



# Take multiple pictures to convey action



# Capture their expression





# Using Print with the Pictures

- Helps make language consistent
- Allows you to use your child's language level
- The repetition of the words allows them to anticipate the language.






# The Reaction

- The children loves seeing pictures of themselves and were immediately engaged
- Books were small enough for them to hold.
- Parents used familiar and appropriate language for their child.



# Reading to Toddlers

- Focus on the child's enjoyment of reading
  - Incorporate literacy activities in the child's routine
  - Have their books easily accessible to them
  - Let them see you reading as well
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# Tips for Reading to Infants and Toddlers

- Reading with expression using different voices
- Use pictures to build vocabulary
- Encourage child to repeat what you say or comment on it
- Make reading a part of the routine during the child's day.
- Let the child choose the book.
- Read the stories again and again.
- Associate reading with pleasure

[www.nea.org](http://www.nea.org)

National Education Association



# Increasing Literacy Skills with Children with Hearing Loss

- Make sure the child can see your facial expressions
- Look for books with simple pictures at first.
- Expand on language by adding new words or relating what is on the page to something in the child's life. "the boy is wearing a blue shirt. You are wearing a green shirt".
- Adapt the language as needed.
- Repetition of the books

» [www.babyhearing.org](http://www.babyhearing.org)

