## Family Literacies: Reading with Young Children

Family literacy is the shared experiences and activities that promote literacy development in children. It includes reading, talking, singing, and playing with children in ways that help them learn about language and develop a love of reading.



#### Family Literacies: Reading with Young Children

by Rachael Levy

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Research shows that children who are exposed to family literacy experiences have higher levels of early literacy skills, which are essential for success in school and beyond. For example, children who are read to regularly have larger vocabularies, better comprehension skills, and higher reading achievement scores than children who are not read to as often.

There are many different ways to promote family literacy. Here are a few tips for parents:

- Read to your child every day. Even if your child is not yet old enough to understand what you are reading, the sound of your voice and the rhythm of the language will help them develop a love of reading.
- Talk to your child about what you are reading. Ask them questions about the characters, the setting, and the plot. This will help them to understand the story and to develop their language skills.
- Sing songs and play games with your child. These activities help to develop your child's language skills and to make learning fun.
- Visit the library regularly. The library is a great place to find books that are appropriate for your child's age and interests. Librarians can also help you to find resources and programs that can support your family's literacy goals.
- Model good reading habits. Let your child see you reading for pleasure. This will show them that reading is an important and enjoyable activity.

Family literacy is essential for the development of young children. By reading with your child, talking to them about what you are reading, and engaging in other literacy-related activities, you can help them to develop the skills they need to succeed in school and in life.

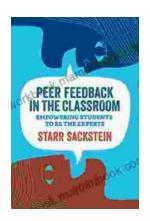


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