The National Research Council recommends that children enter school with early literacy skills that serve as the foundation for learning to read and write. The stronger your children are in these skills, the easier it will be for them to learn to read when they enter school. YOU can help them!

**Narrative Skills**
Tell stories together, encourage your pretend play, and let your child be a storyteller.

**Letter Knowledge**
Help your child identify the first letter in his/her name and find it in books, or street signs and package labels.

**Print Awareness**
Help your child discover how to hold a book and turn the pages.

**Phonological Awareness**
Sing songs, play games and share rhymes to help your child play with the smaller sounds in words.

**Print Motivation**
Find books that match your child’s interests and share them often.

**Vocabulary**
Teach your child the specific names of things, like vegetables at the grocery store.