

Indicator #6
Print Concepts – Words

Student recognizes that letters make words and that words convey meaning.

** ELL/DLL students should be scored on their English proficiency for this indicator **

Research

Research shows there are benefits to exposure of environmental print for emergent readers and writers. Regardless of socioeconomic status or home language all children benefit from exposure to print in their environment. Early encounters and interaction with environmental print, words, and other symbols found in the child's surroundings is one of their first concrete exposures to written language. As a result of this exposure to words within their environment most children begin reading this type of print before they begin reading print within books. Research suggests that as a child becomes familiar with environmental words they begin to understand that letters on paper have meaning and they start to decipher the words they find in print. A strong predictor for early reading is a child's ability to read environmental print and translate this to reading print all around them. Kindergarten classrooms should be a print rich environment.

Giles, R. M., & Tunks, K. W. (n.d.). Children Write Their World: Environmental Print as a Teacher Tool. *Dimensions of Early Childhood*, 38(3). Retrieved June 02, 2016, from http://southernearlychildhood.org/upload/pdf/Children_Write_Their_World.pdf

Phonics and Word Recognition

1.1.PK.D

Develop beginning phonics and word skills.

The learner will:

- Recognize and reproduce name or other common environmental print in order to convey meaning

Effective Practices:

- Provide charts and morning messages for children to read independently
- Promote reading the room strategy, such as searching for letters and words in environmental print
- Create learning centers that focus on letters, sounds, words, and creating simple sentences
- Use print and digital-text materials for functional purposes

ACTIVITIES

Activity:

Materials:

board games, chips, environmental cards

Materials can be found at: <http://www.pre-kpages.com/docs/environmental-print-bingo.pdf>

“Environmental Print Bingo”

Encourage students to recognize common environmental print while playing the “Environmental Print Bingo” game.

Activity Prompts:

1. Game can be played whole class or small group.
2. Teacher calls environmental cards
3. Student covers corresponding picture on game board
4. Play until someone gets BINGO

Evidence Collection Strategies:

Using a sheet, which includes all student names and a yes and no column, when student yells “BINGO,” teacher will check answers. If correct, teacher will check yes, for evident understanding. If incorrect, teacher will check no.

Home School Connection:

Go on a scavenger hunt in the supermarket or neighborhood or newspaper circulars looking for a list of items.

Activity:

1. Students will sign in using their first name as they enter at the beginning of the day.

(Model may be provided if necessary)

Materials:

- Board (white or chalk) for students to sign their name.
- Board writing utensil

Activity Prompts:

1. If a child stops writing their name – “What letter comes next?” Restate what they have written before, and again ask what comes next.

Evidence Collection Strategies:

Teachers will observe and use a check list to document students ability to write their name with or without a model.

Extension activity:

1. Reading and Writing around the Room

- Children work in pairs to read and record the environmental print around the room using materials listed.
- Switch roles.

Materials:

- 2 clip boards
- Pointers
- Unique writing utensils (markers, colored pencils, sparkly pens, etc...)
- Lined and unlined paper

Extension Activity Prompt:

1. If the students cannot read the words that they wrote the teacher will assist in finding the words with the student and have the student use the environmental clues to read the words.

Home School Connection:

Encourage families to engage their child in reading at home:

In the kitchen:

- Reading the name on a cereal box
- Identify the first letter of that label
- Identify other labels on items in the kitchen (milk, sugar, soup...)

In the car:

- Read traffic signs
- Identify letters
- Read names of places (Fast food restaurants, stores)

Home School Extension:

Encourage families to read labels and signs with their children while running errands

- Supermarket scavenger hunt

Read labels under the pictures on a food item on a menu.