

WHAT IS EARLY LITERACY?

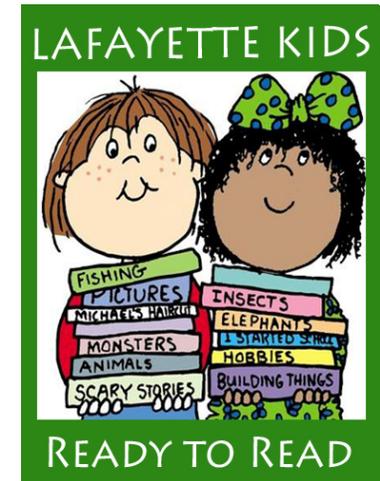
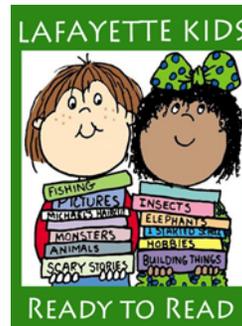
Early Literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write. Early literacy skills are:

- A Love of books
- Big vocabulary
- Knowing how books “work”
- An Ability to tell stories and describe things that have happened
- Alphabet knowledge
- Ability to play with words and sounds

Children who develop early literacy skills *before* they start school have a great advantage; they are **ready to learn** to read once they begin school.

Engaging children in simple but powerful activities every day helps them develop early literacy skills and get ready to read.

These activities or practices are: talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing - major elements of a library-style story time program.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Melissa Hisel
Program Coordinator
303-665-5200 x1168

Melissa.Hisel@cityoflafayette.com

SUPPORTING EARLY LITERACY IN LAFAYETTE



Lafayette Public Library
775 W. Baseline Road
Lafayette, CO 80026
303-665-5200

LAFAYETTE KIDS READY TO READ

Lafayette Kids is an outreach program of Lafayette Public Library that builds partnerships with Lafayette childcare centers, family childcare homes, and preschools to support language and early literacy development of young children.

HOW IT WORKS

Volunteers are carefully screened and receive 6 hours of basic training in early literacy development and story time technique. These volunteers visit childcare and preschool facilities regularly and present story times with books, songs, and rhymes.

Volunteers also bring materials, for use by children between visits.

Centers interested only in materials delivery, or those on the program waitlist can have materials delivered regularly by a library volunteer.

BECOME A CHILDCARE PARTNER

Eligibility Requirements

- Facilities must be located in the City of Lafayette;
- Facilities must provide care for a minimum of 4 children;
- Children must be between the ages of 0-6 years old

How to Become a Partner

- Complete an application;
- Complete the Partnership Agreement Form;
- Meet with the program coordinator at your facility

To Apply

Contact Melissa Hisel, program coordinator at 303-665-5200 x1168, or email: Melissa.Hisel@cityoflafayette.com

STORY TIME LEADER

Volunteer Story Time Leaders schedule, plan, and present story times at a Lafayette preschool or child care facility 1-2 times a month.

LAFAYETTE KIDS COURIER

Volunteer Couriers link the Library and preschools or childcare centers, by selecting and delivering books 1-2 times a month.

VOLUNTEERS NEED:

- A love of children's books and the library
- A respect for young children as important individuals
- A desire to help promote early literacy
- A willingness to be playful and silly while sharing books & rhymes
- 2-4 hours of time, 1-2 times a month on weekdays
- Great people skills
- The ability to lift 20 pounds
- Two personal or professional references
- A reliable mode of transportation
- Must be 18 years or older

APPLY TO VOLUNTEER

Apply online at:

www.cityoflafayette.com/libraryvolunteer

Or pick up an application at the Library

*"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."
— Dr. Seuss, I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!*