Reading Rhyme Regularly

Did you know that one of the best predictors of how well a kindergartner will learn to read is the ability to detect rhyme patterns?

In preschool, children learn how to pick out rhyming words and count the number of syllables in a word. It also involves noticing how sounds repeat themselves (alliteration), as in, “Susie sold six salami sandwiches.”

**Four reasons rhyming is important**

1. Rhyming teaches children how language works. It helps them notice and work with the sounds in words.

2. Rhymes help children experience the rhythm of language. As they recite rhymes, they learn to speak with animated voices.

3. When children are familiar with a rhyme, they learn to anticipate the rhyming word. This prepares them to make predictions when they read.

4. Rhyming is important for writing, too. It can help children understand that words that share common sounds often share common letters. For example, the rhyming words cat and bat both end with –at.

Check out these books from the JP Morgan Chase Library that feature rhyme or alliteration: Sheep in a Jeep, and There’s a Wocket in My Pocket.

Kindergarten Transition

The transition to kindergarten is the topic of this month’s Parent Discussion Series, Wednesday, January 24, 3:30-5:30 p.m., in Room 260. Please stop in and stay for as little or as long as you are able. We will be discussing the educational milestones a child should master at age five to foster success in elementary school, activities you can do at home to support the transition, and what to expect during the kindergarten year with your child.

SFC administrators and social work students will lead the discussion and we will also host a representative from Columbus City Schools who can describe the school lottery system for the district. You can learn what your home school is, what is offered at different Columbus elementary schools, and how to make sure that all enrollment steps are completed so that your child is successfully registered during the February and March window.

Although this evening is of particular interest to families of four and five year olds going to kindergarten in the fall, any family who is interested in learning more about the next phase of your child’s education is welcome.
PARENT DISCUSSION SERIES

The school hosts monthly meetings for families with young children. Below is a schedule preview for our series, where families can discuss topics they selected via survey at Open House with experts in the field. For more information on any of the sessions, please contact our Family Services Team at 614-247-7007 or stop by room 133.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date and Location</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Jan. 24, from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. Room 260</td>
<td>Kindergarten Transition</td>
<td>Join the Family Advocacy Team and a Columbus City Schools representative to learn about registration and preparing your child for kindergarten.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Feb. 22, from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. JPMorgan Chase Library</td>
<td>Home and School Literacy Connections</td>
<td>Receive tips on working with your child on reading skills at home from our librarian. Get books and materials to share at home.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Mar. 29, from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Room TBD</td>
<td>Infant/Toddler Transition to PreK</td>
<td>Families with children moving from an Infant/Toddler classroom to PreK during the spring and summer will discuss what to expect during the transition, the similarities and differences between infant-toddler and preschool classrooms, and age-appropriate expectations for preschool children.</td>
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SEVERE WEATHER INFORMATION

The Schoenbaum Family Center is a university building and follows The Ohio State University’s closure policies. When checking for school closings on local radio, television and internet sites, look to see if The Ohio State University (main campus) is closed.

In addition, in case of severe weather closure, our automated system will send each family a text and email informing them of closure to the contact information on file. It is every family’s responsibility to ensure that the phone number and email address is updated and current for the automated system. You may always stop by the front desk to update your contact information for the automated system.

EVENTS

Every Tuesday from 7:30 – 9:00 a.m.
Coffee Talk - drop off your child and enjoy coffee and a snack with staff and other families in the library.

Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.
Community Story Time in the library for children birth to five years and their parents and caregivers.

SFC CLOSURE DATES

Monday, Jan. 1, New Year’s Day Observed
SFC Closed

Monday, Jan. 15, Martin Luther King Day
SFC Closed

OUR MISSION

The Schoenbaum Family Center and Crane Center for Early Childhood Research and Policy

Partnersing to improve children’s well-being through research, practice and policy.