



First Pages

Playground Time

Everyday childcare routines are perfect for learning language and literacy. Try using these responsive strategies when the children are on the playground to support language and literacy development.

Responsive Strategy:	Sounds like a caregiver saying this:
Make Predictions	“What will happen when we roll this ball down the slide?”
Ask Simple ?s	“Let’s see, where is the shovel?”
Make Comments	“You like to run so fast!”
Be Playful	“Let’s all march and stomp our feet on the way outside.”
Make Silly Rhymes	“Slide glide” “Sun fun” “Sandy handy”
Follow the Child’s Lead	“I see you looking at the swings. Let’s go play on the swings for a while.”
Make Verbal References	“Look! This is the letter O! O stands for Outside.”
Point to Words	“This word on your shirt says, Bluey.”
Notice Letters in Words	“Sand starts with the letter S, like your name, Sammy.”
Notice Sounds in Words	“Sammy, what else has that “sss” sound?” “sun, super, sand”
Talk About Reading “Conventions”	“What does this say on your friend’s shirt?” We start reading here... “It says, Spiderman!”
Consider Other Ways the Child Can Be a Part of the Routine	“Let’s put the sand toys in this bucket.” “Let’s all line up and touch our noses.” “Everybody FREEZE...now, GO!”