

KLC Parent Literacy Together! NEWSLETTER



www.kalamazooliteracy.org

July 2020

Summer Learning for Parents and their Children

The Kalamazoo Literacy Council (KLC) invites you to join us for a summer of learning! This is a perfect time to continue learning and to help your children get ready for school. Learning from home can be hard. We can help you connect to our Virtual Learning Center online so you can learn with other parents.

Check out the calendar on the back page to learn when you can join these great activities!

Parent Literacy Together

We want to help you learn while your children learn. In this class, you will connect with parents just like you to share tips and advice from your experiences supporting your children's learning. You can work toward your own learning goals while also helping your children work toward theirs! You are already doing great things. We want to help you feel empowered to continue learning while your children learn!



Parents and Children of Kalamazoo (PACK)

This is the perfect place to have your voice heard. We want you, as parent leaders, to tell us what you need to be successful. What do you love about our programs? What do you need more of? Is there something we're missing? With your strong voices, we can better serve you. You will also have the opportunity to connect with other parents who want to share their ideas.

Parent Literacy Forum

Parents work with experts to learn about literacy activities that can help their children succeed. During these monthly meetings, parents learn more about our program and other services.



Read and Seed Health Literacy

In this class, you will learn tips and strategies for keeping you and your family healthy and active. We will discuss how to stretch your food dollars and shop on a budget. We will also share healthy recipes and exercises you can do at home! Staying active and eating a balanced diet is key to your health. We want to help make nutritious meals and physical activity a daily part of your family's life.



Call **Taylor** at 269-447-1158 for details.
Email tsayers@kalamazooliteracy.org

INSIDE:

Learning on
the Go →

kalamazooliteracycouncil
#EveryoneNeedsToRead



Learning on the Go: Every experience can be a learning experience

By Taylor Sayers, KLC Parent Literacy Navigator

Learning can happen every day with just a little bit of creativity! You are already doing **AWESOME** things that can help your children learn. Learning can look different for everyone. Here are a few tips and tricks that help your children learn while you are on the go!

Learning in Your Child's Bedroom

Talking about clothing

- Use “dress up” to teach children that clothing has different purposes. Use fun words when talking about textures, colors, and pictures on clothing. This will help your children learn new words.
- Let your child pick their outfit. You might want to choose some and let them pick from your choices. After they decide, you can ask things like: “Why did you pick that outfit?”



“Which outfit would you choose to go to the _____ in and why?”



Encourage creative thinking

- Read a book and ask children to act it out! Ask questions and give ideas such as: “What did the character do next?” “Show me what you think the character should have done.” Keep the book nearby and use it to remember the story when needed.
- Older children can learn from “**divergent thinking**” or thinking outside of the box. Ask them to have fun ideas about how things work. Use situations in books or movies they like, or even stories about their peers. Ask “Why do you think that happened?” or, “How would you have handled this situation?”



Writing letters

- We need creative ways to connect to people now more than ever. Older children might like writing a letter and mailing it or dropping it off at a relative’s house. This is a great way to show children how to write to different audiences.
- Proofread letters with your children and talk about the changes.



Learning in the Kitchen

Putting away groceries

- Ask children to help sort groceries by shape or type. This includes dairy, fruits, vegetables, and pantry.
- Ask questions along the way such as, “Do you like this food?” For younger children, ask “What color is this food?”

Preparing meals or snacks

- Ask children to read a recipe and follow the instructions. This is a activity that includes reading, math, and comprehension!
- Use measuring cups and other kitchen tools with children. Talk about the food you are preparing.



Write grocery shopping list

- Older children like to list what food is in the kitchen to see what you will have to buy.
- This is also a great way to talk about budgeting.



..... More Learning on the Go!

For more fun Parent Literacy tips, call Taylor at 269-447-1158. Email tsayers@kalamazooliteracy.org



Learning in the Yard

Looking at animals, insects, and plants

- Look for animals, insects, and plants that are new to you or your child. Ask questions about how they look to get your children to describe them. Take notes on what you see and do some research when you get back to the house. This will help you learn more about what you saw!



Talk about sounds, sights, and smells

- Listen closely and repeat the noises you hear! Talk about where the sound came from. Was it a car? Was it a bird? Was it another family? Talk about if it was loud or quiet and if this might mean the noise was close or far. Talk about the things you might see. This includes the people, cars, the colors, moon and stars, the weather, and different buildings.



Learning during family trips

Going to the park

- Give children challenges like gallop, walk slow, run, crouch, jump, or hop on one leg. When other children or siblings are with you, play games such as hide and seek or tag. These games encourage play skills and physical activity. Shoot hoops, play catch, or toss a football. Playing sports can help children develop an interest in athletics. This is a great way to talk about their interests, bond, and learn how to be on a team. Ask questions and talk about the rules of the game.

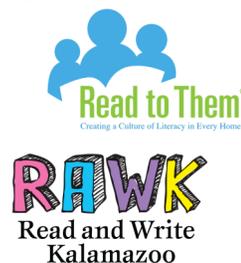


Going to the grocery store

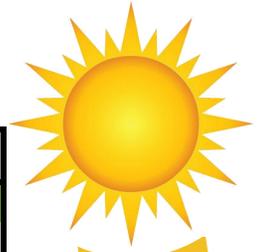
- Talk about the different foods you see. Talk about colors, shapes, and what your children like or dislike. This is great place to learn how to select yummy produce! Some children might like reading a grocery list and making sure you get everything you need. Talk about nutrition and balanced meals. There are tons of things at the grocery store that you might not keep at home. Show your children new foods and ask how they can be included in meals.



Brought to you by your friends at



JULY 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
					Read and Seed Health Literacy 10—11 a.m.	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		Parent Literacy Together 6—7 p.m.			Read and Seed Health Literacy 10—11 a.m.	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
		Parent Literacy Together 6—7 p.m.		PACK Network 6—7 p.m.	Read and Seed Health Literacy 10—11 a.m.	

Parent Literacy Forum
1:30—3 p.m.

AUGUST 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Parent Literacy Together 6—7 p.m.			Read and Seed Health Literacy 10—11 a.m.	
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	PACK Network 6—7 p.m.	Parent Literacy Together 6—7 p.m.			Read and Seed Health Literacy 10—11 a.m.	
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