

READING *and* WRITING SKILLS *Begin* EARLY!

Research has shown that learning begins at birth! Children need environments that encourage healthy development and learning. All young

children deserve the

opportunity to succeed. Helping your child get ready for school begins long before kindergarten.

Give your child a great start! The Virginia PIRC has a network of providers trained in the Parents as Teachers (PAT) curriculum.

PAT offers parents information, support and encouragement while increasing awareness of early childhood development.



You are your child's
FIRST TEACHER!

Singing, playing, reading and talking are . . .

ALL TEACHING OPPORTUNITIES!

Personal Visits

Resource Network

FAMILY

Screenings

Group Meetings



VIRGINIA PIRC PARENT INFORMATION AND RESOURCE CENTER

www.PEATC.org • Toll-free: (800)-869-6782

A project of the Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center



Birth–6 months: Read, sing and talk to your baby often. At this age, your baby’s eyesight is not fully developed, but hearing is.

7 months–1 year: Read to your child often and talk about the pictures in the books. Make sure your child has books and remember it is normal for babies to put books in their mouth! Encourage your baby to repeat sounds you make with your mouth.

1 year–2 years: Be sure to play with your child—this is the time to repeat words and encourage your child to sing songs and learn the names of body parts. Remember your child needs opportunities to practice talking without a pacifier. Join a story group at your local library.

2 years–3 years: Visit the library often with your child. Ask your child questions about the story. Look at different books. Ask your child to tell you about the pictures. Talk with your child about the cover of the book, where the story begins, and what might happen next. Encourage your child to write and draw with crayons and copy shapes you make.

3 years–4 years: Provide your child with opportunities to follow written directions. Encourage your child to write letters, make lists and talk about letter sounds. Talk about the letters in your child’s name and in simple words. Limit your child’s TV time and look into local preschools.

For more information about early literacy workshops and resources, contact PEATC-VIRGINIA PIRC (see info on reverse side).