

Pre-K 4 Parent Literacy Handbook



ST. BENEDICT
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

EST. 1962

Mission Statement

At Saint Benedict School, we promote language and literacy skills, beginning in PreK, to all students through differentiated instruction and developmentally appropriate lessons that serve as a foundation for lifelong learners.

We, at Saint Benedict School, create positive growth and prolonged success in language and literacy learning through a nurturing environment that allows for all students to achieve appropriate learning goals by:

- Developing letter knowledge, an understanding of speech–sound correspondences, and phonological awareness with a goal toward mastery.
- Consistently practicing language, communication, and writing skills which are crucial in meeting literacy standards.
- Asking and answering questions about stories and texts while increasing fluency and understanding through exploring diverse texts.
- Engaging and empowering parents/guardians in facilitating, supporting, and assisting students in ongoing literacy development.

Vision

The vision of the Saint Benedict Early Childhood Literacy Curriculum is rooted in empowering, inspiring, and sustaining a lifelong love of reading in our students from the earliest stages of foundational literacy.

Parents and caregivers want their children to succeed, and by establishing a strong partnership between school and family, students can thrive and reach or exceed expected literacy goals.

Purpose of the Parent Literacy Guide

The Parent Literacy guide will provide you with resources you can use to keep track of your child's progress and guide them on their literacy journey.

This guide includes:

- Everyday activities to promote literacy at home
- Literacy growth paths
- Sight words
- Tools and Resources

Everyday Activities to Support Literacy At Home

- *Read to your child from a physical book every day
- *Point out environmental print in the world around you (street signs, advertisements)
- *Tell stories and let your child tell stories to you
- *Re-tell stories that you read
- *Draw, write, or color together
- *Promote fine motor skills by stringing beads, playing with play-do, building legos etc..
- *Practice verbalizing emotions, thoughts and needs

Letter Formation and Recognition

During Pre-K 4, SBS students will be introduced to all 26 letters of the alphabet. They will have the opportunity to learn each letter, letter sound, and begin writing both upper and lower case letters. The letters will be introduced in order of frequency, writing strokes and discrete sounds.

Our letters will be introduced in the following order:

M-T-F-N

H-A-P-Z

B-I-S-D

U-V-L-W

O-R-E-G

J-C-K-Y

Q-Z

St. Benedict Literacy Growth Path

Throughout the school year students will spend the majority of their time working on the following topics. All students grow and learn at their own pace but most students should understand these concepts and topics well by the end of the year.

Sept (entering Pre-K 4)

Recognize 1st name

Recognize environmental print

1st letter of name

Answer simple questions about a text: What color is the girl's dress?

Concepts of print- hold a book, "read a book"

Communicate in 4-5 word sentences

Express needs, feelings in words and use eye contact

Listen to a story

Draw some basic strokes

Jan (mid year conferences)

Know letters in 1st name

Write 1st name

Know some letters

Know some letter sounds

Re-tell a story

Know what an author and illustrator do

Use pronouns when speaking

Answer more complex questions about a text: What do you think happens next?

hold/write with a pencil

Draw simple representations and recognizable shapes - circle, house

June (Year End)

Write 1st name using upper-lower case letters

Recognize last name

Know most letters

Know most letter sounds

Match some upper-lower case letters

Opposites

Rhymes

Story sequence - beginning, middle, end

Make up a story

Simple word families- cat, hat, bat

Draw more complex representations with more detail - person, house with doors and windows

Tools and Resources

Public library card :)

ABC/Number Flashcards (make your own or Dollar Tree carries them)

Small white board and dry erase maker for practice

Some good websites:

PBSkids

Funbrain

ABCmouse

Reading Eggs

Sesame Street

Starfall