

Inclusive Practice

SLC 6 - Literacy - Environment



Please note: the SLC cards should be worked through in order from cards 1 – 6

Are you promoting a love of literacy?

When you look at your environment, does it feel inspiring? What opportunities are there for sharing books and stories, mark making or recognising letters and sounds?

TASK 1

Do you have a writing area? Is it essential to have one? No. But if you're going to have one, why not make it the best it can be?

What is there for the children to explore? Crayons, chalks, pencils, pens, envelopes, magazines, catalogues, stamps, note pads, post it notes etc, the opportunities are far reaching.

- Think about what is currently on offer within your environment and action plan areas for improvement you identify.

Remember that mark making can take place anywhere at all. Getting to know your children, their interests, and their needs, will enable you to develop your environment to support their literacy needs.

How about your book corner?

How inviting is it? How much consideration has gone into the books that are available? Whether you're a pack away setting or a purpose-built nursery, you can make your book/story corner a wonderful space for children to develop a love for literacy. It's about working with what you have.

- How about a book buddy tub? Have a tub full of teddies that the children can choose from to share a story with.
- You could pull together some Book Baskets. With a chosen story and supporting props e.g., The tiger who came to tea story book, a tea set and a tiger teddy/puppet/small world figure/mask. Think about how this would support you to engage the children in enjoying books and stories.
- Would your book corner be better explored if it was outside? If so, maybe a pop-up tent and some artificial grass and cushions could create an inviting space to engage the children?

“Stories are an important part of life. Loving printed books and developing an enjoyment of looking at or hearing stories is an integral part of early years practice.” ***Help for early years providers.***

TASK 2

Continue to build on your knowledge and understanding of how best to support early literacy skills through some further reading. If you haven't already, take a look at Phase 1 of Letters and Sounds. Keep in mind what you know - know the child, know their needs, know their interests.

- letters-and-sounds.com/index.php/phase-1/