

Play Read Grow Early Literacy Station Training for Parents

Kit Contents

- Stations for Read, Write, Sing, Talk, and Play, including supplies for crafts for up to 20 participants (see supply list at the end for bigger groups)

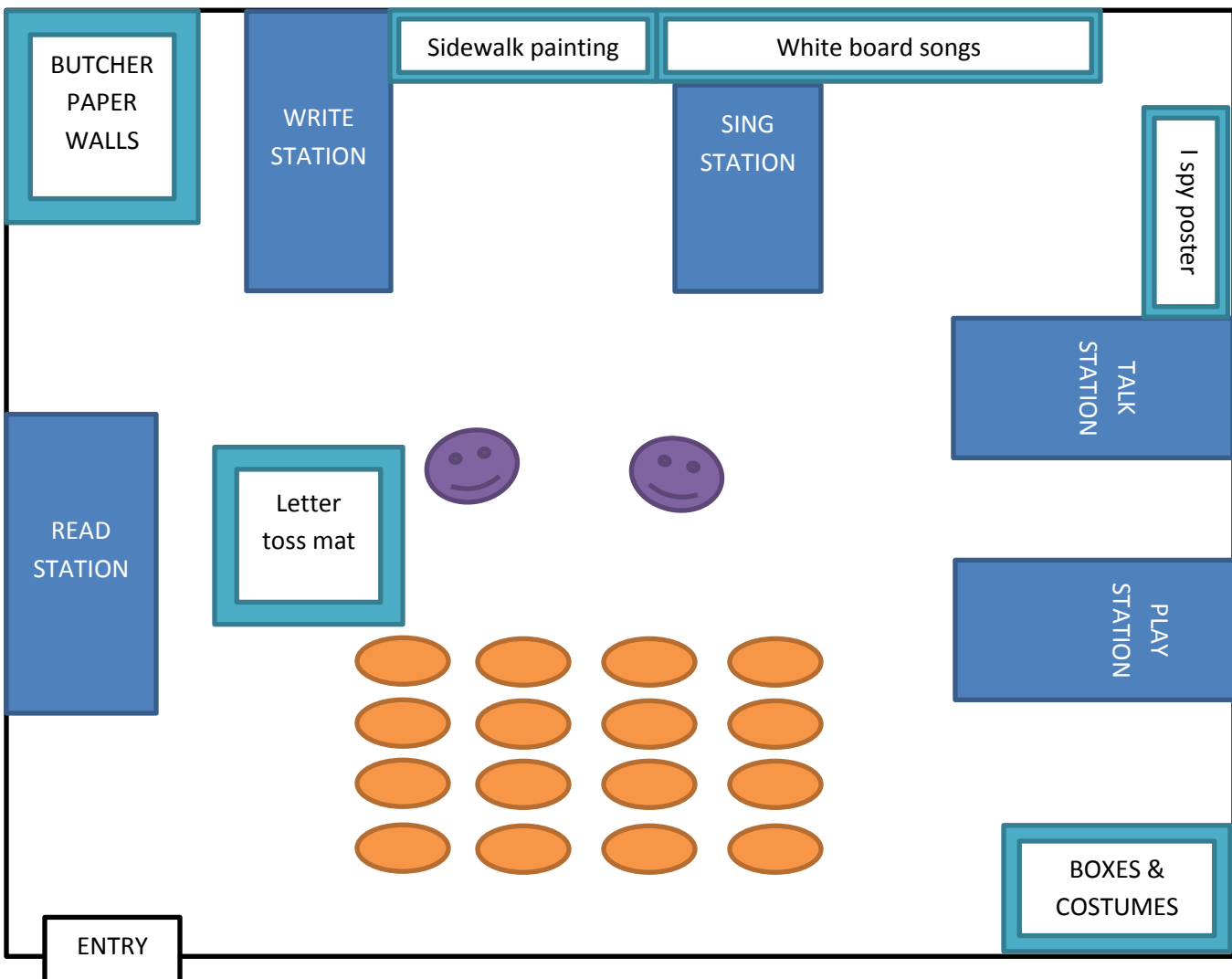
Branch Provides

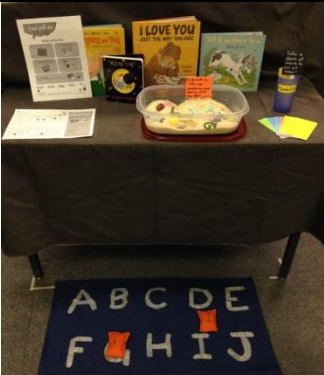




- Display of interactive picture books (including *From Head to Toe* by Eric Carle)
- Display of wordless picture books
- Long sheets of butcher paper & tape
- 1-2 large cardboard boxes to decorate
- Card applications for adults & kids (notify branch of possible influx of applications prior to training date)
- Recycled Reads Bookmarks, Play Read Grow biz cards, other promo mats.
- Plastic Sign Stands (5)
- Kid friendly scissors



Setting up the Room

Suggested meeting room arrangement is chairs arranged in a block for the first part of the presentation, with the tables arranged around the room behind you. All the stations except the read station should have access from 2 sides if possible to allow more elbow room for crafts.



	CONTENTS	DISPLAY	TIPS
R E A D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign holder with station identifier • Instruction memo clips • Book display • Library card applications • Letter / Word Hop • Letter hunt bin • Take and make labels 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go wild with your book display – that's what makes this station look great! • Remember to have board books for the babies! • You can make a tape grid for the letter hop game or just lay our alphabet mat on the floor! • Have parent & child card applications available • This station can be unstaffed
W R I T E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign holder with station identifier • Instruction memo clips • Butcher paper on walls, floor, table with scribble implements • Water painting station • Playdoh for motor development • Salt scribble bin • Goo bag sensory slate 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have some hand sanitizer and paper towels handy for cleanup • Put the water-painting station on the opposite end of the table from the scribbling station • Put butcher paper on the wall, floor, and tabletops • Have a playdoh safe surface on the floor for little ones ★ Staff this station! ★
S I N G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign holder with station identifier • Instruction memo clips • Pan Flutes • Drums & sticks • Maracas • Promo board book • Song prompts on whiteboard 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have bin available for spare straw parts and encourage re-use of cut straws • Put the drums and drumsticks on the floor • Song prompts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The ___ on the bus goes ___ ___ ___ ○ Teach your child a favorite childhood song! ○ Sing the ABCs! Now sing them backwards! • This station can be unstaffed
T A L K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign holder with station identifier • Instruction memo clips • E3 alliance books • Wordless picture books • Question jar • Rhyme match basket • Sensory jars to explore with babies • Storytelling Bag 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage parents to draw their own story elements or use our pre-printed stickers • Bring more sensory jars if more babies are expected • Encourage parents to find the E3 booklet online • This station can be unstaffed
P L A Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign holder with station identifier • Instruction memo clips • Cardboard boxes • Costume box • Puppet Bag • Make a paper bag puppet • Make I Spy binoculars • I Spy poster • Head to Toe (Carle) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costumes and puppets have been selected to encourage creative re-use at home • Encourage parents to play puppets with their baby • This station can be unstaffed

Presentation Talking points

You should plan for an approximately 15 minute presentation – or two minutes per station plus a couple more on brain development and questions. If you have a very small group, you may wish to take them station by station and do a more informal presentation as you move through each station.

Ice Breakers

- Help the parents break the ice with one another at the very start by introducing themselves and their child, and saying one thing they like that starts with the letter of their name (or their child's) – Ex: My name is Kathleen, and my son's name is Klaus... and we both like Kite Festivals!

Brain Talking Points

- Babies are born with 100 billion brain cells (neurons) – more than adults (~85b)
- During the first 2 years of life, they make a lot of connections! (super highway – color purple example)
- WHY: But they also prune about 20% of those – whatever they aren't using... so use it or lose it!

Read Talking Points

- WHY: Opportunity to engage, explore new vocabulary, thoughts, and feelings
- Read with enthusiasm but also with intentional interaction (paper or ebooks)
- Find words in the world around you
- Label things at home
- Store books within reach
- If you want to raise a reader, be a reader – encourage your child to ask questions about what you are reading and offer simple retellings of the stories you are reading to them

Write Talking Points

- WHY: Scribbling – develops motor skills needed for writing
- Develops awareness about print conveying meaning
- Give many opportunities for developing fine motor skills (play-doh, scissors, different writing implements, surfaces, & angles)

Sing Talking Points

- WHY: Slows down words – breaks them into syllables, memory & comprehension aid, rhyming helps with predicting, and it's attention grabbing yet soothing (serotonin)
- Make songs your own and make them fun
- Use songs everywhere – transitions, de-stressing a situation
- Sing songs from childhood or that are your favorites today
- Good singing voice not required!
- Percussion instruments are satisfying accompaniments because they help release endorphins & serotonin

Talk Talking Points

- WHY: Parent and caregiver engagement through speech is essential for brain development – especially speech development, which will later play a role in reading
- Make it a priority to find ways to talk to your child – even when they are pre-verbal
- Ask and answer questions – especially open ended ones
- Retell favorite stories together & make up new ones
- Have children tell you the story of their drawings & you can write it at the bottom

- Play I Spy / Veo Veo – but switch it up: try using rhyming words, or things that start with the letter ___
- Take a book Walk with a wordless picture book, an old favorite, or a simple ABC book!

Play Talking Points

- WHY: Pulls all of the 5 best practices together in one vehicle – reading (storytelling) writing singing and talking!
- Many skills developed during play (fine and gross motor, storytelling skill, talking, imagination, problem solving)
- Don't need fancy toys – a cardboard box or a pile of old clothes & hats can spark a little imagination
- Try family storytelling with your older child – go around the table at dinner with each person providing the next line in a story you tell as a group
- Don't be afraid to be silly, and use play wherever you go – especially when waiting in line! (Head to Toe)
- Remember: Anything can be a costume... or a puppet! This TP tube could be a telescope, or a tiara, or a secret message, or an important scroll, or a magic potion bottle! The possibilities are endless!

Ideas for Books to Display

Interactive Picture Books

- Gore – The Wonderful Book
- Gravett – Again!
- Fore - Read to Tiger
- Harris – Maybe a Bear Ate It!
- Bloom – A Splendid Friend, Indeed
- Beaumont – I ain't gonna paint no more
- Litwin – Pete the Cat: I love my White Shoes
- Martin – Chicka Chicka Boom Boom
- Rosenthal - Duck! Rabbit!
- Willems – Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!
- Savage – Where's Walrus?
- Mack – Good News Bad News
- Portis – Not a Box
- Lucas – Something to Do

Wordless Picture Books

- Pinkney – The Lion & the Mouse
- Rohmann - My Friend Rabbit
- Rohmann – Time Flies
- Savage – Where's Walrus
- Wiesner – The Three Pigs
- Wiesner – Flotsom
- Thomson – Chalk
- Schubert – The Umbrella
- Frazier – Bee & Bird
- Lee – Mirror OR Wave
- Lehman – The Red Book
- Rodriguez – The Chicken Thief
- Banyai – Zoom
- Nyeu – Wonder Bear
- Cooper – Beaver is Lost
- Raschka – A Ball for Daisy

Extra Supplies

If you are planning a training for a large group, you will need to pick up these additional crafting supplies from the stash:

TP tubes	Spoons	Easter eggs	Pinto Beans
Zipper bags	Colorful tape	Hair Gel OR Pudding	Straws
Paper Bags	Markers	Crayons	Butcher Paper
Sheets of labels	Playdoh	E3 alliance booklets	Promo Board Book