

## Early Literacy Development

The terms beginning reading and writing or early literacy development frequently include several phases of learning through which children progress in different ways and tempos. It is an exciting and complex process. The goals for children are:

1. To become fluent and efficient readers and writers who can make sense of and convey in written language,
2. To become thinkers and communicators who actively review and analyze information,
3. To enjoy reading and writing,
4. And, to feel successful as users of literacy for a variety of purposes.

### Emergent Readers:

#### Pre- Kindergarten through 1st Grade

- Understand that written language conveys messages.
- Pretend read and write: they turn pages of books, invent stories using pictures and their memories.
- Begin to match spoken words with print.
- Know letter names and some sound associations.
- Can write some letters.
- May reverse some letters or write in only capital letters.
- Are able to make simple rhymes.
- Can break apart words into sounds

### Early Readers:

#### 1st Grade through 2nd Grade:

- Know that reading needs to make sense.
- Are more attentive to print and know more print conventions.
- Can identify letters by name and can use some letter/sound knowledge to help figure out words.
- Know the meaning of some punctuation.
- Can recognize by sight a growing store of words in different contexts.
- Use pictures, story patterns, context and memory of some words to make sense of print.