

Goals of a Print Rich Environment



the **LETTERS** of Literacy

Umbrella Graphic by LitteRed

Literacy/Library Center

How to Create the Center with Universal Learning Supports:

- Include books related to topics you are exploring in your thematic units
- Rotate books so that children build skills and discover new interests
- Keep a few class favorite books in the center
- Display books on low shelves
- Provide stuffed animals, puppets
- Create a listening center nearby with recorded books and books with songs
- Organize books into shelves or baskets related to topics or themes (label the categories)

Accommodations/Supports:

- Include simple picture books that are high-interest
- Include class-made books with photos of the children and of functional environmental text

Ideas for Accommodations and Supports for the Literacy Center

Increase physical access to books

Choose durable books with clear pictures and simple text.

Consider optimal physical positioning for a child's comfort and stability.

Attach "page fluffers" to help separate the pages. Use velcro or textured fabric to help the child hold the book in place.

Include materials with large print, bright and contrasting colors.

Include recorded stories with sound effects to help teach story structure.

Boost cognitive access to books

During shared reading, give students props such as stuffed animals and photographs that correspond to the story.

Use highlighter tape to emphasize important words that relate to pictures or plot.

Introduce graphic symbols and pictures that help support the story.

Help children connect their own familiar experiences to the characters and plots.

Writing Center

How to Create the Center with Universal Learning Supports:

- Provide a variety of writing tools, paper, and other kinds of writing surfaces
- Post a list of children's names, post photos with labels, charts of environmental text
- Provide book-making materials such as hole puncher, stapler, yarn
- Provide ready-made blank books
- Provide "mailboxes" for children and adults (label mailboxes with names and photos)

Accommodations/Supports:

- Provide adapted writing tools along with large-area surfaces
- Include magazines with photos of interest for cutting out and gluing
- Encourage expression and communication by allowing children to dictate or "show" what they want to write

