

## ***Grumpy Bird* Early Literacy Tips for Parents**

These early literacy tips are great to tell parents and demonstrate yourself in your *Grumpy Bird* storytimes and events:

- *Grumpy Bird* is a fun book! Having fun with books is one of the best ways to develop young readers. When children learn that books are fun, they develop a love of reading. A love of reading is a strong foundation for learning.
- Parents and caregivers are a child's best teachers. Spending time with your child doing some simple things – Talking, Singing, Reading, Writing and Playing – will give your child the best foundation for reading.
- Teaching your child the names of emotions not only helps your child learn vocabulary, it also teaches your child emotional regulation. Children who can name their emotions learn more quickly to gain control of their emotions. Emotions are as much a part of growing and learning as knowledge.
- Play is a child's work. Children learn best and feel best when they have plenty of time for playing. You might want to play "Follow the Leader" with your child just like *Grumpy Bird* plays with his friends.
- Having fun with noises is a great way for children to learn the sounds of language. This will help them with reading someday. You can make lots of different bird noises with your child. Chirp, quack and hoot together. Not only will your child have fun, he will also be developing a good foundation for reading.
- Singing with your child is one of the best things you can do to help her become a reader. Singing lengthens the sounds of words so a child can more easily hear the sounds that make up words. Children need to be able to hear the separate sounds in words before they can read.
- Reading books is a great way to introduce your little one to things we don't see in everyday life. Some people don't see wild animals very often. It's great to learn about them through books.
- Sometimes when you read with your little one, point to the words as you read them. This helps your child learn that the words they see in a book match the words they hear. It also teaches children that words on the page go from left to right and top to bottom.

- When you share a book with your little one you don't need to just read the words you see on the page. You can have fun just looking at the pictures and talking about what is on the page. Pointing out what you see in a book and talking about the pictures is a great way to help your child learn.
- Read, sing and say nursery rhymes with your child. Nursery rhymes help build vocabulary by introducing your child to words we don't often use. They are also great for developing phonological awareness, which is the ability to hear the sounds of language. Children who know eight or more nursery rhymes when they start kindergarten are more successful all through their school years.
- Children learn through movement. Doing fun movement activities with your child will help your child's body and brain grow.

