



| Ready 2 Read Overview
| March 7th, 2023

Agenda for Today

- MSL Announcements
- Ready 2 Read Early Literacy Initiative History and Mission
- Current Ready 2 Read Programs
- Ready 2 Read Training Opportunities
- Staying Informed on Ready 2 Read
- Questions and Comments

MSL Announcements

Upcoming Opportunities

- OPI Credit available through Colet Bartow
- Tiny Tech Training Series
- Montana CYS Meet-Ups
- Webside Chats
- MLA 2023 Sessions
- 3/9 at 6 pm: MLN Virtual Program on Thunderous

Information and News Sources

- [MSL Website](#)
- [Newsletters](#)
- [MSL Help Desk](#)
- [WIRED List Serv](#)
- [ASPeN Events Calendar](#)
- [MSL YouTube Channel](#)
- [Email/call any MSL staff member](#)

Ready 2 Read History and Mission

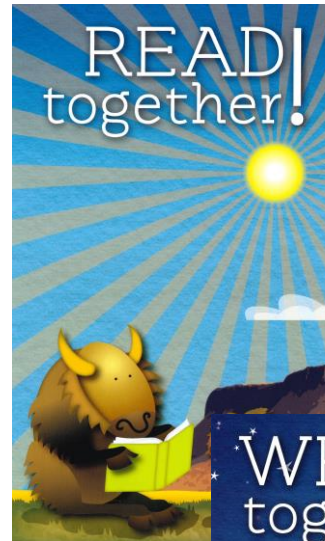


Ready 2 Read Mission

- “The main goal of Montana’s Ready 2 Read program is to help parents and caregivers, especially low-income families, understand the value of sharing language and literacy with children, and to help develop their children’s early literacy skills.”

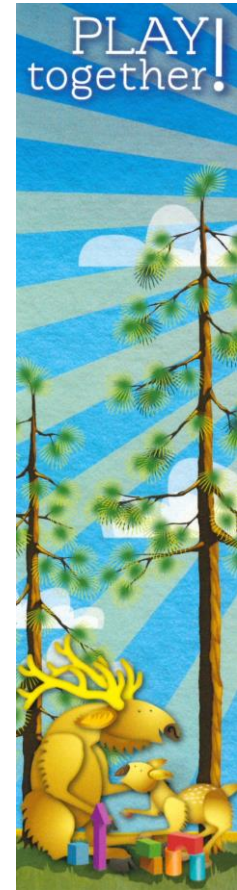
Ready 2 Read History

- Started in 2009 by Sara Groves at MSL
- Based on ALA's Every Child Ready to Read and Hopa Mountain Storymakers
- Read, Write, Talk, Sing, Play!



Ready 2 Read Publicity Materials

- Pre-printed, available at request
- Will be mailed directly to your library
- Can request at any point in time at akim@mt.gov



OTHER THINGS YOU CAN DO WITH PRESCHOOLERS

- Have your child help you choose which books and stories to read at the library, and have them practice retelling the story in their own words.
- Talk about the pictures, characters, and events in the story as you are reading – have your child make predictions, or use their imagination to make up other stories with the same characters.
- Point out some of the letters in the book. “There is a ‘K’. Your name starts with a ‘K’ too.” You can run your finger below the text as you read aloud.
- Connect the story with your child’s life. “That truck looks like the one we saw yesterday, doesn’t it?”

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

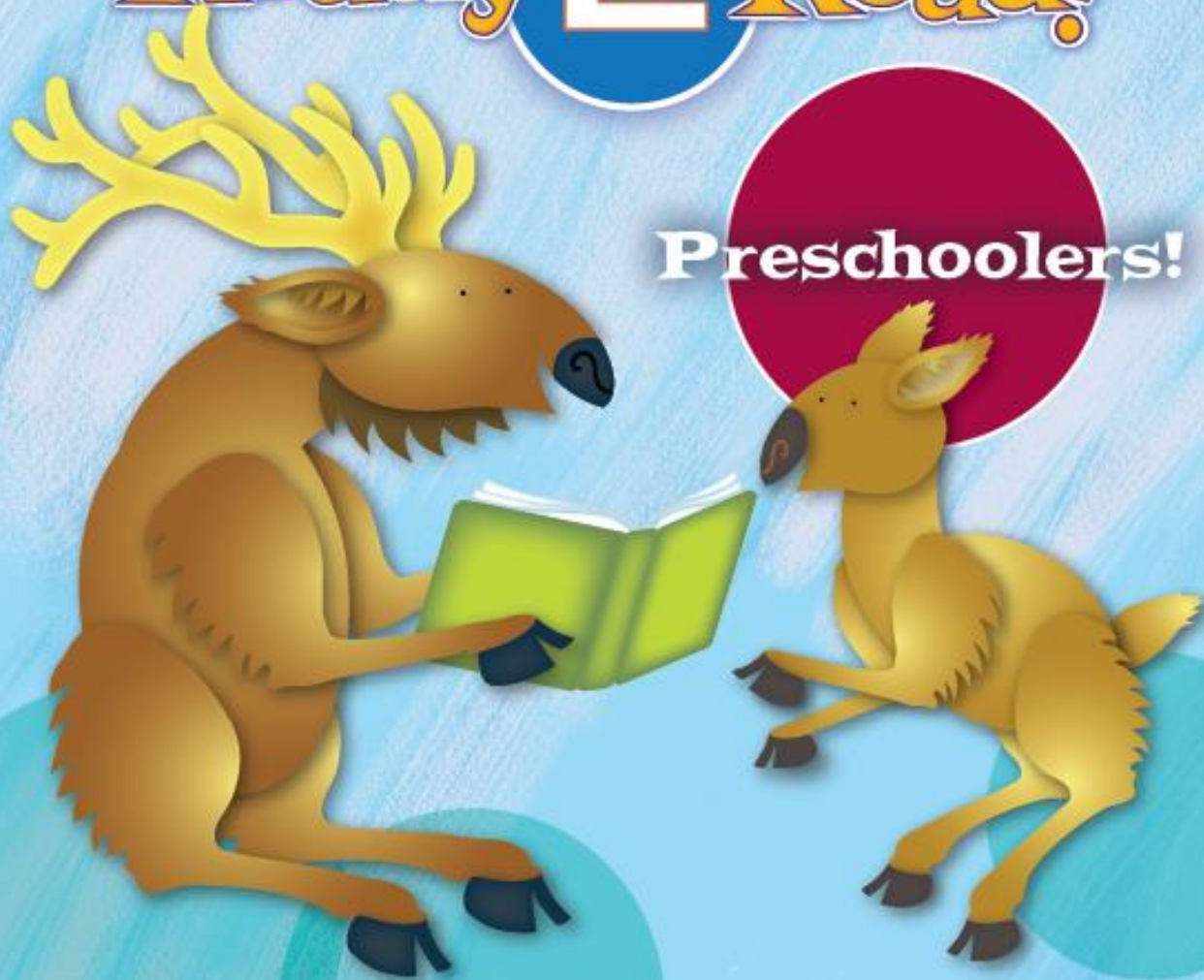
You can learn more about how to help your child’s early literacy skills by talking with your local public librarian! You can also visit ready2readmontana.org for more resources on books, songs, fingerplays, and other fun things to do with your child.



<http://ready2readmontana.org>

Ready 2 Read!

Preschoolers!



What is Early Literacy?

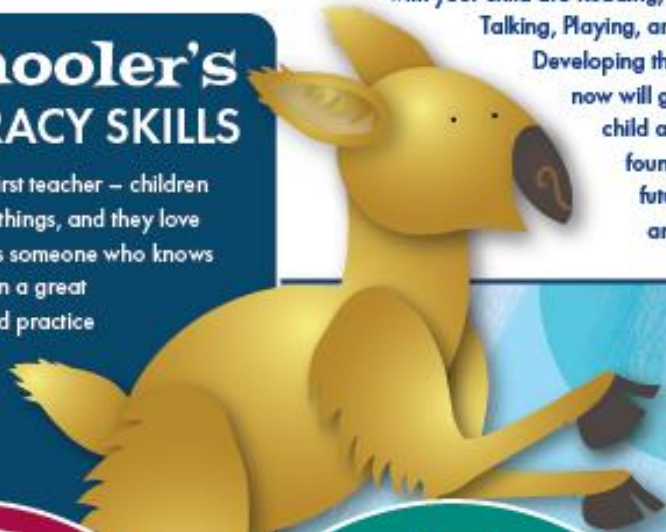
Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write. Research shows that children get ready to read years before they start school. You can help your child learn important skills now so they can become good readers later. The five skills to practice

with your child are Reading, Singing, Talking, Playing, and Writing.

Developing these skills now will give your child a strong foundation for future learning and growing!

Preschooler's EARLY LITERACY SKILLS

You are your child's first teacher – children learn best by doing things, and they love doing things with you! As someone who knows your child best, you are in a great position to help your child practice these skills that become building blocks for reading, writing, and learning about the world!



READ

Reading together helps your child learn new stories, ideas, and situations. You can develop your child's love of learning through stories, even if it is just a few pages at a time!



WRITE

When children use a pen or pencil, it helps develop those fine motor skills they will need later on. Drawing shapes, scribbles, and doodling are all important parts of preparing to learn how to write, and can help them get used to controlling their pencil.



TALK

Conversations can help your child learn new words, develop speaking and storytelling skills, and help them understand what they are reading or experiencing.



SING

Singing breaks words into smaller pieces and helps your child hear the differences in language. Singing also encourages children to have fun with words, learn about rhyming, and express themselves creatively! Share songs with your child, and help them create their own!



PLAY

Playing is how children learn and make sense of the world. Imaginative pretend play, building with blocks, indoor and outdoor games, interacting with others – all build important cognitive and social skills that children practice during play!

READING MILESTONES

While every child is different, here is what preschoolers may like to do with books and how you can help them enjoy the stories you share with them.

YOUR CHILD @

3 AND 4 YEARS

- Handles books and paper pages with ease.
- Understands that the words on the page mean something.
- Begins to recognize letters.
- Enjoys longer stories with characters and plot.
- Likes discussing books.

YOUR CHILD @

5 YEARS

- Sounds like she is reading when she pretends to read.
- Begins to recognize a few words.
- Understands that print is read from left to right and top to bottom.
- Begins to recognize rhyming words and beginning letter sounds.
- Can retell simple stories.



Other Ready 2 Read Materials

- Posters (long)
- Magnets (about business card sized)
- Ready 2 Read website: ready2readmontana.org

Ready 2 Read Programs



Ready 2 Read Texting

- 8 months of early literacy tips texted to your phone for FREE
- Focus on parents/caregivers as first and best teachers
- Started in 2015
- Sign Up by texting “SIGNUP” to 406-204-3583. You can sign up again even if you have received all texts in the past!
- Social Media toolkit/template available

EARLY LITERACY TIP



YOU can help your child become a good reader! Where to begin? Talk to your child - a lot, everyday. Today, tell your child one of the dreams for the future.



Ready 2 Read Rendezvous

- Early literacy focused conference
- Any librarian who works with children and families
- In-depth, hands on training and practice
- Connection with peers across the state
- 2022 Rendezvous in Lewistown

Ready 2 Read Supercharged Storytime Learning Cohort

- Supercharged Storytime 6-module course on Webjunction
- Self-paced work, and online discussion
- 6 – 7 people per cohort
- Reflection, development, and connection



Ready 2 Read Reimagining School Readiness Toolkit

- Fall Virtual Training, exact date TBD
- Learning Outcomes:
 - Learn and understand the six key findings from school readiness research
 - Learn about four hands-on activities to use in library work and discuss how to best implement
 - Share and discuss how to use school readiness in current early literacy and early childhood work

Other Ready 2 Read Trainings

- Monthly Montana CYS Meet-Ups
- MLA Sessions
- Webinars throughout the year – check ASPeN
- Let Amelea know about topics of interest!

Where to find R2R Information


- Talk with Amelea!
- MSL Website – Lifelong Learning section
- For families/public: ready2readmontana.org
- Trainings and opportunities in Lifelong Learning Digest and MSL Newsletters
- ASPeN Events Calendar

Want to get started with Ready 2 Read?

- Ask for publicity materials to hand out!
- Use the Texting program tips in your storytimes!
- Sign up for a Rendezvous, a Supercharged Storytime cohort, or a Reimagining School Readiness training!
- Chat with Amelea for more ideas!

Questions?

Suggestions and feedback for current programs?
Other support you'd like to see?
Future program ideas/direction?



Contact Amelea

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406-444-0224