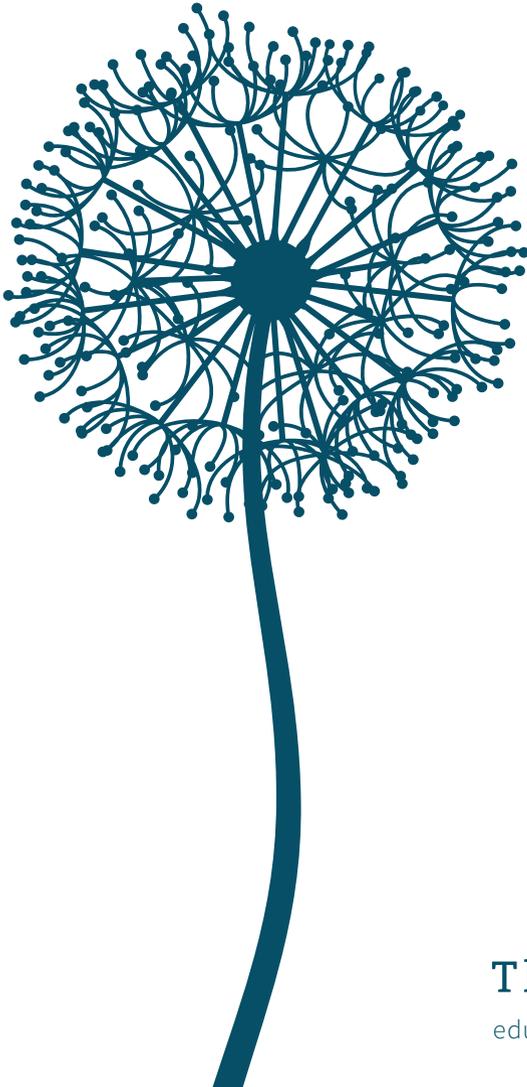


GROW

FIELD GUIDE FOR BUILDING
EARLY LEARNING SKILLS



The Forsyth Promise 

educate | equip | engage | cradle to career



EARLY LEARNING

*You can make a difference in your child's life.
Talk with them. Read with them. Sing with them.*



INTERACT

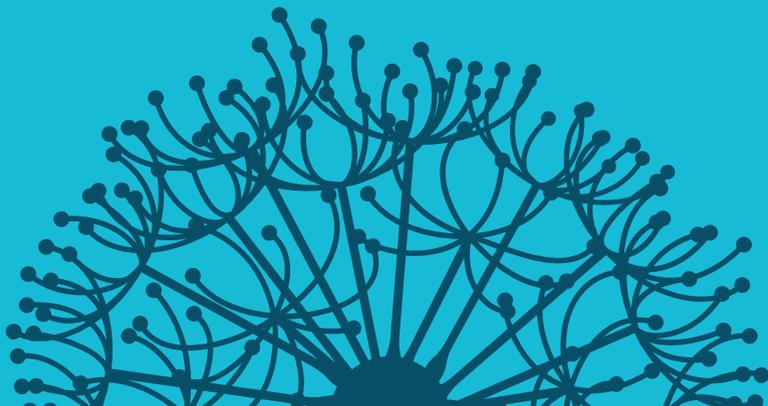
When children and their families or other caregivers interact it helps to “wire” the brain and further develop a child’s abilities.

GROW

The first 5 years of a child’s life are so important. It is during these early years that the brain grows the most.

EXPERIENCE

Good early childhood experiences create a strong foundation for all the learning, health and behavior that follow.





PROMISE

The Forsyth Promise is a community partnership working to ensure that every child in Forsyth County receives the best education possible and is fully equipped to thrive throughout life.



SUCCESS

Language, social, emotional, intellectual, and physical skills are closely linked, and all of these skills are essential for success in school and in life.



Interaction between parent and child actually builds the brain and the foundation for learning.

BUILD YOUR CHILD'S BRAIN

It matters! Interaction feeds the brain and opens the door to success in school and life.



DID YOU KNOW

that the human brain is the only body organ that is not complete at birth? Scientific research clearly shows that the interactions between parents and very young children continue building the brain through establishing the connections across brain cells necessary for learning, speech and much more.



WHAT CAN YOU DO

to help build your child's brain?



TALK

Talk with your child every day.



READ

Read with your child (babies, too) every day.



SING

Sing with your child every day.



CUDDLE

Cuddle with your child every day.



KEEP IT SIMPLE

Keep your words simple. Don't use a longer word than you need to. For example, in most cases "use" is a better choice than "utilize."



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CHECK OFF THINGS YOU DO REGULARLY TO PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR SUCCESS

- I take my child to the library or a bookstore. We talk about the parts of a book (cover, title page, pictures, etc.).
- We go to the grocery store together. We find all the red fruits and vegetables (apples, cherries, red bell peppers, etc.).
- We go for a walk and explore the outdoors. We talk about the weather (hot, cold, rainy, sunny, cloudy, etc.).
- We do art activities together. We talk about colors and textures (smooth, rough, slick, sticky, fluffy, prickly, etc.).
- My child and I dance or do physical exercises. We talk about moving our bodies (arms, hands, wrists, shoulders, ankles, etc.).
- My child and I learn a new song or play a musical instrument together. We talk about sounds (soft, loud, noisy, high, low, etc.).
- My child and I do cooking activities together. We talk about stirring, sifting, pouring, mixing, measuring, etc.
- We work a puzzle or build something with blocks. We talk about size, shape, texture, color, etc.
- We create our own new activities! My child and I . . .

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Here are some ways to help build your child's brain and prepare your child for success in school and life.

1 READ WITH

Read the signs you see in the store to your child and point out the labels on food items.



2 TALK WITH

Use new words every day to describe items to your child (ex: That apple is red and shiny! It feels warm and breezy outside today!)



3 SING WITH

Sing along with your child to your favorite songs or together make up new songs.



4 CUDDLE WITH

Cuddle with/hug your child several times every day.



5 PLAY WITH

Introduce your child to a new activity; playing a simple game, helping with simple tasks, or going outdoors to explore nature.





ADDRESS

301 N. Main Street
Suite 1700
Winston-Salem, NC
27101

ONLINE

Website
www.forsythpromise.org
Email
forsythpromise@gmail.com

ABOUT US

The Forsyth Promise is a community partnership working to ensure that every child in Forsyth County receives the best education possible and is fully equipped to thrive throughout life.

This field guide was developed by members of The Forsyth Promise Early Childhood Literacy Collaborative Action Network. Members of this network collectively identify and promote evidence-informed best practices and the effective use of data, in order to support children, birth to Kindergarten, and their families so that every child will have the literacy skills needed to be successful learners. If you are interested in learning more about the Early Childhood Literacy Collaborative Action Network or would like to get involved in helping improve kindergarten readiness in our community, please email forsythpromise@gmail.com or call 336-721-9375.