ABSTRACT

Fostering Reading Habits among Preschoolers through Educating Mothers to Provide Basic Stimulation to Reading & Enriching Literary Environment of Preschoolers

Literary skills are essential for survival in the world of early academics and success in later adult life. Early focus on these skills from preschool years will contribute to a strong literary foundation. Families are children’s first educators and play a critical role in a child’s literary development through rich literary experiences at home. Parents may not be aware of best practices for their child’s literary skills acquisition. Educators can help mothers of young children to improve their awareness and knowledge of early literary development practices and offer mothers, specific strategies to help support their children’s literary development skills.

The present study was conducted to assess the literary awareness of mothers, measure time spent by them in shared reading to their children, and to assess the literary ability of the children after training mothers on various literary development strategies and activities. Training modules were developed to equip mothers with core literary skills and shared reading strategies to create a literary rich environment at home. 50 mothers of pre-schoolers participated in the intervention program for one academic year. Analysis of the data showed that training mothers with appropriate literary skills and strategies has a tremendous influence on children’s literary abilities.

Key Words: Pre-schoolers, Literary environment, Shared reading