Language and Literacy Development in Early Childhood

Language and Literacy Development in Early Childhood provides educators with an integrated approach to language and literacy learning in early childhood. Written by a team of leading academics in the field, it explores how children learn to talk, play using language, become literate and make meaning – from birth through to preschool and the early school years.

Emphasising the importance of imagination, play and the creative arts in language learning, the authors address a wide range of contemporary issues, including digital literacies and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives. Taking a broad and inclusive world view, the book highlights the impact of diverse socioeconomic, language and cultural backgrounds on young children’s language and literacy development, and shows how early childhood teachers can effectively partner with parents and caregivers to help children learn through and about language.

The book connects theory and current research to practice by providing case studies, interviews, reflective questions, clear links to the Early Years Learning Framework and the Australian Curriculum, and a rich array of practical and creative activities for use in early childhood environments. Illuminating and accessible, this is an invaluable resource for pre-service and practising early childhood teachers alike.

Additional resources are available online at www.cambridge.edu.au/academic/ECliteracy.

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Language & Literacy Development in Early Childhood

Robyn Ewing
Jon Callow &
Kathleen Rushton
For my parents Jean and Dennis in appreciation of their love and kindness, and to Amos and Evie who love stories. JC

For Ben whose music makes teaching an art and for Amenah and Helen for sharing their heartfelt stories. KR

For my grandchildren who have enabled me once again to share in the wonder and wisdom of childhood. RE
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