

EARLY CHILDHOOD NEWSLETTER

Migrant Technical Assistance Support Center (M-TASC)

Fall 2017

**Focus for
this issue:**

**Tools for Parents to Expand the Language They Use
with their Children**

What is the Early Language Gap?

Research has found that providing children from birth to five with consistent, language-rich experiences – such as talking, reading, and singing – can have important benefits on their brain development and future school success.

However, many families lack access to the types of resources that can help them make the most of these language building experiences. This creates a gap in the quantity and quality of words that children learn, which directly impacts their opportunities to succeed in school and later on in life. (*US Department of Education's Early Childhood website*)

What You Will Find in this Issue:

- Short, dynamic stories and related picture-word cards.
- Translation of the stories and picture-word cards into multiple languages.
- Activities that parents can use to expand the ways they use their language with their children. Reading, telling stories, playing with words...
- Ideas for Educators to connect NYS MEP ECA skills stories.

Translation Bookmark and Parent Tip

Translation: The words from the story and picture-word cards are repeated in English on the left, with the translation on the right. Parents can use the bookmark to read the story in their own language, or use pictures to tell a story.

Parent Tip for ENL parents: M-TASC is selecting one tip per story. This is translated at the top of the Translation Bookmark.

The Parent Tip for ENL Parents connected with the story, "Where are my Things?" is about the importance of using their home language every day.

Parent Tip for English-Speaking Parents

<https://www2.ed.gov/documents/early-learning/talk-read-sing/families-en.pdf>

Use page 2, "Tips for Toddlers." This suggests 10 activities for parents to *Talk, Read or Sing* with their child. This could seem overwhelming, so encourage parent(s) to select **one** of the activities to start with.

Story, "Where are my Things?"

"Where are my Things?" is about a girl who needs a pencil **to write her name** in school. Her mother needs to read the note from school.

<http://www.textproject.org/assets/products/beginningreads/download-texts/BR-Level07-Texts.pdf> (book #10)

Related Cards: “School Picture-Word Cards”

<https://www.prekinders.com/school-picture-word-cards/> (20 cards)

ECA Connection to the Story

- Write Name or first letter of name
- Use the color RED
- Draw a ball/circle

Migrant Educator Tip: Continue to use the “School Picture-Word Cards” as a transition to the next activity. For example, put out the picture-cards for the scissors and paper as you give a 2-minute warning to finish the current project in order to move on to the cutting activity.

Story, “In the Chicken Coop”

“*In the Chicken Coop*,” tells why chickens need to stay **in** the yard, instead of getting **out**.

<http://www.textproject.org/assets/products/beginningreads/download-texts/BR-Level09-Texts.pdf> (book 5)

Related Cards: Farm Picture-Word Cards

<https://www.prekinders.com/farm-picture-word-cards/> (19 cards)

Translation Bookmark and Parent Tip

ENL Parents: This story’s Parent Tip for ENL Parents is about sharing their rich heritage of stories, poems and songs from their childhood.

Parent Tip for English-Speaking Parents

Using the same handout US DOE handout, “*Tips for Toddlers*,” encourage

parents to select a **different** activity to focus on.

ECA Connection to the Story

- Prepositions: In and Out

Use the Farm Picture-Word Cards to demonstrate, “in” and “out.” For example, put the picture of the “chicken” **in** the child’s hand, then take the picture of the “chicken” **out** of the child’s hand.

Migrant Educator Tip: Use M-TASC’s **Preposition Sentence Starters** to highlight a different preposition pair in future sessions. The sentences have blanks, so you, the child or parent can select different pictures (nouns) to complete the sentence.

For example: the child can select two picture-word cards to fill in the “blanks” of one of the Preposition Sentence Starters to read, “*The [chicken] is on the [tractor].*” Then move the picture cards to act out the sentence.

Resource Websites

The early learning gap information on page 1, along with the Family and Parent Tips used, can be found at the USDOE website: www.ed.gov/early-learning/talk-read-sing

Look for a copy of this Newsletter, the Translation Bookmarks and Preposition Sentence Starters on the NYS MEP website: www.nysmigrant.org