

# EARLY CHILDHOOD NEWSLETTER

NYS MEP Migrant Technical Assistance Support Center

Winter 2018

Focus for this  
issue:

## Making a Difference

### NYS MEP Early Childhood Academic Tool (ECA): 2016-17 Results

**PRE-TEST:** The four-year-old group had four (4) Skill Areas identified as a Statewide Strength. **POST-TEST:** The four-year-old cohort demonstrated a Statewide Strength in *all eleven (11) ECA Skill Areas.*

### NYS MEP Virtual Professional Development Conference

January 2018 is around the corner. We are excited about the Early Childhood workshop topic: *Social Emotional Learning and Literacy* when working with preschool and early elementary students. Keep your eyes out for the email invitation to register.

### Giving Parents Tools to Use More Language with their Children

Talking, telling stories, listening, sharing, reading, writing. Parents can make the difference in changing the “Early Learning Gap.” The handout of suggestions for English-Speaking parents is described on page 2. The Translation Bookmark, combines one parent tip for ENL-Speakers with a translation of the targeted story and related picture-word-cards. **Use 10 minutes to discuss the “Parent Tip(s)” with parents, and demonstrate how to find and use the translation of the stories and picture-word cards.**

#### Story: “Mittens, Coat and Cap”

“*Mittens, Coat and Cap,*” is about children who dress warmly so they can go outside to play.

<http://textproject.org/assets/products/beginningreads/download-texts/BR-Level08-Texts.pdf>

(scroll down to Book 7, pages 13-14)

#### Story Translation Bookmark and ENL-Parent Tip for “Mittens, Coat and Cap”

**Translation:** The words from the story, “*Mittens, Coat and Cap,*” and the *Winter* picture-word-cards are written in English on the left, with the translation on the right.

#### Related Concept: Winter Picture- Word-Cards

The *Winter* picture-word-cards feature outdoor clothing, winter sports and animals that live in the cold.

<https://prekinders-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/winter-word-cards.pdf>

**Parent Tip for ENL Parents:** The Parent Tip translated at the top of this Translation Bookmark is, “*Read a book to your child in whatever language you feel most comfortable—beginning at birth. If you don’t feel comfortable reading words, you can point out the pictures in the book and talk with your child about them.*”

## Parent Tip for English-Speaking Parents: *Talk, Read and Sing Together Every Day!*

This 3-page document dedicates one page each to research and activities about Talking, Reading and Singing. I would recommend giving parents one page/one topic to focus on, at a time.

### Story: “Bird’s Feet”

“*Bird’s Feet*,” tells about the different ways birds use their feet for swimming and gripping a branch. Then the story connects to a child using feet to run and hop.

<http://textproject.org/assets/products/beginningreads/download-texts/BR-Level06-Texts.pdf>

(scroll down to Book # 7, pages 13-14)

### Related Concept: Parts of the Body Picture-Word-Cards

Our students consistently do well on identifying body parts for the ECA, but there are a few words that students struggle with: “toes” and “stomach.” The *Body Parts* Picture-Word-Cards include these words and pictures.

<https://prekinders-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/body-part-word-cards.pdf>

### Story Translation Bookmark and ENL-Parent Tip for “Bird’s Feet”

**Translation:** The words from the story, “*Bird’s Feet*,” and the *Body Parts* picture-word-cards are written in English on the left, with the translation on the right.

**Parent Tip for ENL Parents:** The Parent Tip translated at the top of this Translation Bookmark is, “*Remember to share your stories with your children. Tell stories about when you were young. Tell stories about your family.*”

## ECA Connections for Educators

### *Mittens, Coat and Cap:*

- **Write Name** – Student draws a winter picture and writes/attempts to write name on it.
- **Scissors Skills** - The Beginner can cut hunks and snips of white paper to glue on blue construction paper to make snow and snowflakes.
- **Scissor Skills and Shapes**- Student cuts out white circles and glues to make a snowman. Add a triangle for the nose and rectangles for the hat.

### *Bird’s Feet:*

- **Prepositions** – Make a game using the picture card to move around the body parts into silly places.
  - For example: “put the [toes] **under** the table... **on** the table...”
  - On...Under... Next to... In... Out... In front of... Behind... Between
- **Body Parts** – Game: Take turns selecting a card. (Change the game to meet the student’s needs.)
  - Beginning Learner – **MATCH** the card to touch the part of the body (and say the word)
  - Middle Learner - **POINT** to the part of their body, shown by the card (and say the word)
  - ECA-Ready – **NAME** the part of the body shown by the card