

# The Early Bird and the Worm

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One of the most important things parents can do as their early educational leaders is pay attention to their child's educational growth is to be on the lookout for reading, writing and math deficiencies. If you are a parent who is spending regular educational moments with your child and you see potential learning disabilities arising, you need to be proactive and to connect with educational professionals you know and explain these educational symptoms you have witnessed.

These educational moments shared within the framework of family are special but can be tenuous in a time when 2 parent homes are on a decline and 1 parent homes have a parent that may have multiple jobs to support their children. To stay on top of your child's educational journey becomes much more difficult when parent accessibility to their young children is hampered by either a need to eat or a want for the finer things in life.

Many times having those early educational touches with your child and especially a protracted daily approach does wonders for your child in those first 3.5 years but also that early educational introduction of pre-school, readying your child for the first of two years before kindergarten. An early introduction to vocabulary starting, at birth is a great way to start with your child. Reading to them right from birth is a fantastic way to introduce your child not only to reading and vocabulary but to the rest of the world. Touching or holding your infant during these educational and emotional moments of reading to them is a great way to instill the positivism of reading within the initial educational season. As your child begins to recognize words, they become mesmerized to your voice and to these daily interactions and done deeply, your child will be irritated if these sensory moments of educational love are missed.

These issues arise as well in 2 parent households, affluent or not, as many times the quest for the Brass Ring or simply paying bills every month takes center stage within each daily breath. Children, family and community can be left in the rear view mirror as parent's time with their children and other hallmark activities have been relegated to whatever time may be left in a given day. In America today, parents work Monday and Tuesday each week to pay for their many insurances and all the myriad of taxes that are inflicted upon us before Wednesday starts and you start thinking about working for your house payment or rent. This kind of stress on the American family has American's making life changing decisions everyday with regards to their children's education.

So what is the answer to getting your child ready at the earliest possible time to enter into pre-school and to compete in the 21<sup>st</sup> century global economy that is highly competitive? A couple things really stand out if you want your little cardinal to have the best possible chance at the biggest worms. No matter what, read and talk to your child using a vocabulary that you grow with your child as a team from birth. If time is an issue, because it really could be, cook, clean, sew, iron, do whatever your daily home rituals are and talk through those tasks with your child as you do them. What a great way to correlate important life skills with reading and vocabulary skills. The more time that you can set aside for your

child from birth to 3.5, the better chance you can directly affect how successful they may be in pre-school and how ready they will be for kindergarten. It also allows for you to monitor their learning progress a bit earlier and possibly recognize deficiencies earlier.

Finding the time will not always be easy, but every personal touch you have with them, educational or emotional will create a child that may be more likely to love education, let alone being a little more prepared for the formality and structure of the American educational journey. Be the one who begins to show your child from the start, that the living is in the doing and what you need to be doing is reading.