

Play is the most powerful way young children learn.

Every time you play, sing or read with young children they are learning about language.

The following activities have been designed for early childhood professionals to use as a starting point for developing children's early literacy skills through play.

Please feel free to adapt them for the home and with children of different ages.

Don't forget to record your own ideas, activities that worked really well, relevant songs and rhymes etc... in the Notes section opposite.

Visit our website www.thelittlebigbookclub.com for more fun printable activities based on this book.

Engaging with Language and Literacy



"Imagination is more important than knowledge."

Albert Einstein

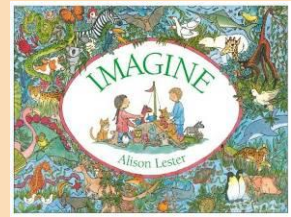
- When you read the story use the Key at the back of the book to help you name the animals.
- Before you turn each page encourage the children to predict what other animals they might find in each environment.
- After reading the story talk to the children about why different animals live in different environments.

Ask the children questions like:

"Could a koala live on an icecap? Why not?" etc...

- Young children are interested in their world and enjoy books that give them information.
 - Read some simple non-fiction books about animals that live in different environments.
- Display toy animals at the drawing table. Talk to the children about the animals and record their ideas. Display their thoughts with their drawings.
- Provide the children with blue paper to draw, paint or collage an ocean picture, green for a jungle picture and brown for a safari picture etc...
 - Encourage the children to refer to the illustrations in the book to find out what animals live in each environment.
 - Label the animals in their picture.
- Explore the illustrations in the book. Talk about what the children in the story are using in their play, eg,
 - Dress ups
 - Toys
 - Recycled materials
 - Imagination!

Use all of the above to help children create their own imaginary worlds.



Imagine Alison Lester

Other books by Alison Lester suitable for this age group include:

- *The Magic Beach*
- *My Farm*
- *Alison Lester's ABC*
- *Clive Eats Alligators*
- *Ernie Dances to the Didgeridoo*
- *Are We There Yet?*
- *Rosie Sips Spiders*
- *Tessa Snaps Snakes*

Notes

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