

The
Early Years Count
Literacy
Connection



**Llama Llama
loves to read**

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Preschool edition

Overview of Book

Llama Llama goes to school and learns so many things! He learns that letters together make words, words together make sentences and lots of sentences make books! Llama Llama loves books, but will he learn to read them?

Genre: Picture book/fiction

Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some from *Llama Llama loves to read* to introduce in your classroom:

letters	memorize
words	rhythm
sentence	rhyme

Each time you read the book, choose 2 or 3 words to highlight.

Use age-appropriate definitions and/or the illustrations to help children gain an understanding of each word's meaning.

Use these new words throughout the day, reminding the children, "That's a word from our story!"

Connecting with the HighScope Curriculum

COR Advantage 1.5

Approaches to Learning
Item A
(Initiative and planning)

Social and Emotional
Development
Item D (*Emotions*)

Language, Literacy and
Communication
Item O
(*Alphabetic knowledge*)

Item P (*Reading*)
Item Q
(*Book enjoyment and
knowledge*)

Reading Tips

Read with the excitement reflecting Llama Llama's enthusiasm about being at school and learning to read. Make connections with the book and the children in your classroom. "Look, they are singing together, we do that! They are singing...what does that say?" (twinkle, twinkle) "Let's sing along with Llama Llama's class!" Share with the children how frustrated Llama Llama gets when learning to read gets difficult. Add, "His teacher helps him get it!"

Three readings are recommended to familiarize children with the story. Each reading provides an opportunity to introduce new vocabulary words, pose open-ended questions, and engage children in activities that make the story "come alive." At the end of each reading, display the book in the book area so children can read it on their own.

Throughout the Routine

Refer to the book throughout the day and use new vocabulary words in meaningful ways. Active engagement with the story helps the content come alive.

Have the children work with magnet letters on cookie sheets at **Small Group Time**.

Have a letter-confetti party at **Large Group Time**. Toss prepared pieces of paper with letters on them and have the children scramble to find the letters in their name.

Make and use "go" and "stop" signs during **transitions**.

Around the Room

Highlight the book's content and build on the children's excitement in a variety of locations.

Place other books in the **Book Area** that reflect love of books. Examples include *Lola at the Library* by Anna McQuinn and *Bunny's Book Club* by Annie Silvestri.

Provide magazine pages and scissors in the **Art Area** and encourage children to look for and cut out favorite letters or words.

Place card stock, pads and other writing supplies in the **Writing Area**.

Open-ended Questions

Enhance active engagement and early critical thinking skills by asking open-ended questions. These questions encourage children to explain why or how things happen, make predictions, or brainstorm possibilities rather than give one "right" answer.

Here are some questions you might ask for *Llama Llama loves to read*:

What do you like best about letters?

Do you have a favorite story or book? Why is that one your favorite?

When you can't read well and can't read about anything you want, what do you want to learn about?

For more information on how to use books and stories with children to enhance your curriculum, contact
The Family Connection:

website—
www.famconn.org

Facebook—
@famconnsjc

phone—
574-237-9740

@ Home

Since many of the children in our county will have this book at home, use it as a way to further the home-school connection. In your daily contact—in person or by text, email or other notes home—encourage families to share this book with their child. Here's a sample message you can send:

Since we have been reading *Llama Llama loves to read*, we've been comparing how Llama Llama is learning about reading and how we are learning about it. As you read this book with your child ask, "What's your favorite thing about learning letters and reading?" Remark about Llama Llama's enjoyment as well as his struggles. Remind your child that learning new things is fun and challenging. While on errands, ask your child to point out signs and letters in their name. Read signs together. Model sounding out the word. For example, if you are at a red light and see a sign say, "Look! I see the sign for Burger King. B-ur-ger K-i-ng!" See that?" There is always something to read.