



# ROOSTER TALES

OCTOBER 2023

SCIENCE OF READING

By Larisa Roy

Learning to read is a science.

Over the last five decades a vast amount of scientifically based research about reading and issues related to reading and writing have been conducted. This research has led to the Science of Reading which is basically the study of how the brain learns to read and write.

Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling also known as LETRS is a two year professional development course teaching teachers to provide effective reading instruction. Many USD 269 teachers have or are currently taking LETRS training, myself included. The research is fascinating and can be used at home. There are six components necessary for successful reading: oral language, phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency and comprehension.

Oral language is the foundation of all other literacy skills. The most important thing you can do with your baby and toddler is to talk, sing and point. When you talk with your child you are setting them up for reading success. Children with better vocabularies tend to have higher levels of phonemic awareness than those with smaller vocabularies. Phonemic awareness is the ability to identify and manipulate individual sounds. Asking your child what sound they hear at the beginning of a word is building phonemic awareness.

Research has found that infants who were talked to by their mothers learned 300 more words by the age of two than toddlers that were rarely spoken to. A child's vocabulary use at age 3 is strongly related to reading comprehension in third grade. Knowing fewer word meanings has a negative effect on reading development resulting in slower reading development and the opportunity to learn new words. (LETRS)

If those reasons are not enough, here are 10 reasons why it's so important to talk with your child from the very beginning:

1. You're teaching them what communication is about, what love is about, and what relationships are about.
2. Talking to your child from a very young age is a way of constantly offering them information, and this helps them feel valued, important, and respected.
3. Talking teaches them what conversation looks like: how to listen, how to respond, how to take turns.
4. Responding to their babbling and early forms of talking builds their confidence to express themselves with words later on.
5. The more words they hear, the more words they can use. When a child has a "language-rich" environment, they are better prepared for school and for life. Think of words as nourishment for a child's brain!

Research shows that "verbally engaging with babies—listening to their gurgles and coos and then responding, conversation-style—may speed up their language development more than simply talking at them or around them."

6. Talking is more than just speaking. Pointing and singing should be used too. Pointing to what you're talking about helps to name objects for your child. When you point and sing, it also models pointing and singing for your child, which provides them with additional ways to communicate with you, even before their speaking skills are fully developed.

7. When conversation is a regular part of your relationship with your young child, it helps set the stage for the later years.

8. By asking your toddler “engaging questions,” they learn to expand their language and unpack their ideas. For example, if your child says, “There’s a doggie!” You can respond with, “Yes, that’s a doggie! What color is that doggie?” or “Why do you think that doggie has fur?”

9. Talking is an opportunity to answer the many questions your child has and helps them learn about the world. Remember, everything about the world is brand new to your young child! They ask a lot of questions because they are naturally curious and want to learn. Use their questions as an opportunity to teach them.

10. Our words matter. They have power. Not just for healthy language development, but for emotional development. Words are an incredible way to communicate to your child how special they are, how loved they are, how valued they are. Be purposeful with your words and use them in ways that build up your child.

<https://pickenscountyfirststeps.org/10-reasons-its-important-to-talk-with-your-child-from-the-very-beginning-2>

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### **Yearbooks for Sale!**

**2023-2024 Yearbooks are for sale at their lowest price of \$40 until October 13 when they will increase to \$45. So be sure to grab a yearbook now before prices rise. You can scan this QR code to go to Jostens website to order a yearbook or contact Sarah Couse at the school.**



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### **Save Up To Date With the USD 269 Notifier**

By Kimberley Eichman

Have you signed up to receive USD 269 text messages? Stay up to date with school cancellations and activity notices by signing up for text message alerts. To sign up, visit [usd269.net](http://usd269.net). Click on the green box (Sign up for News Update) at the bottom right-hand side of the page. The follow the steps. It only takes a few minutes to make sure you are informed. Please call the PJSHS or DES office if you have questions.

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### ***CALENDAR CHANGE***

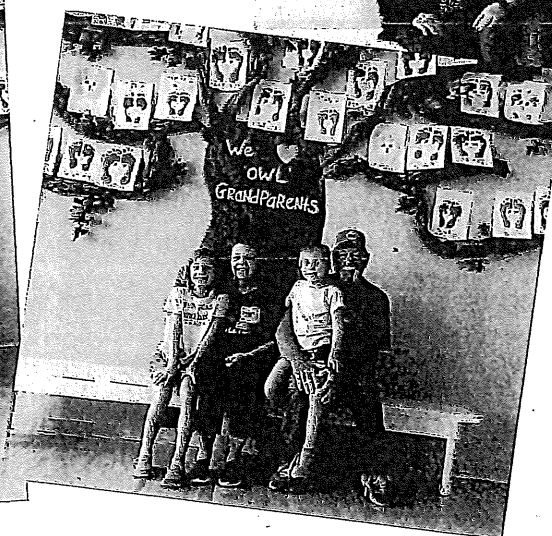
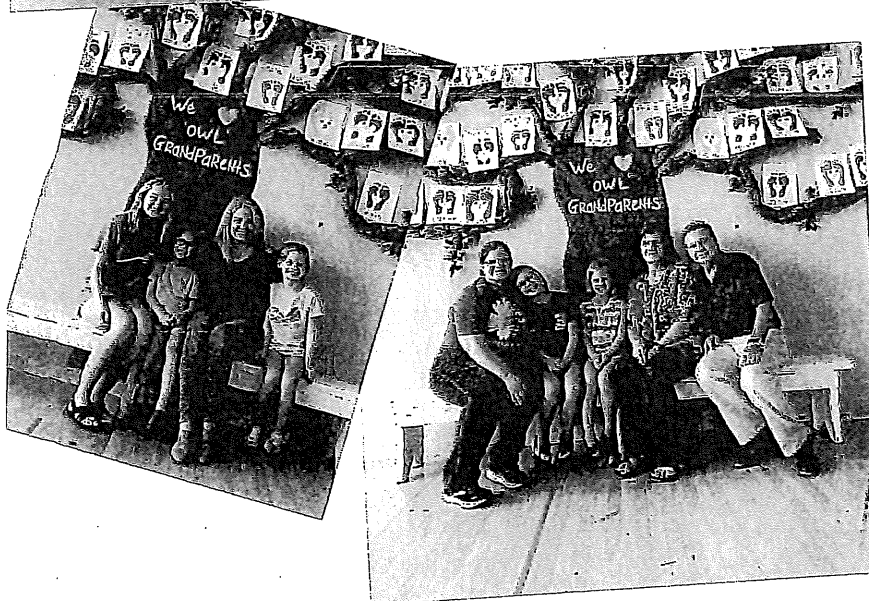
***Leann's Photo's***

***Fall Pictures - November 6th***

***SMILE BIG!***

# Grandparents

Take my little hand,  
guide me as I grow.  
Teach me love and faith,  
and all that I must know.



By Mrs. McNamee



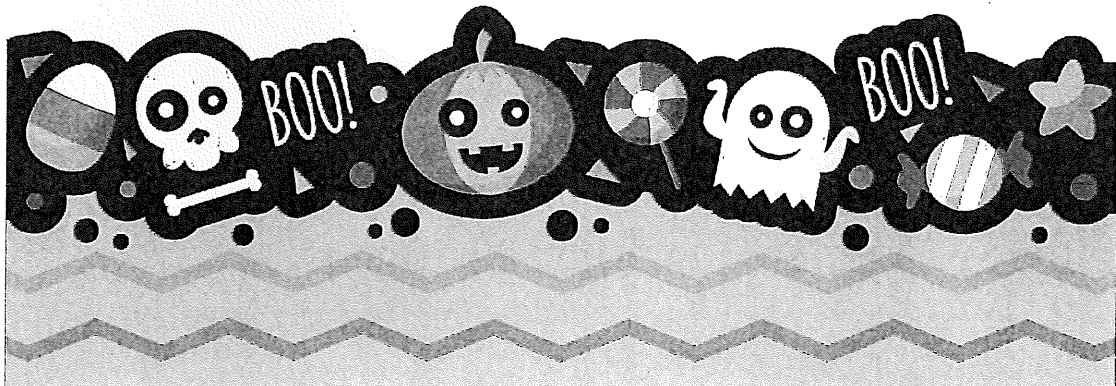
HALLOWEEN  
SAFETY TIPS

**WHEN WALKING**

- CROSS THE STREET AT CORNERS
- USE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND CROSSWALKS
- LOOK LEFT, RIGHT, AND THEN LEFT AGAIN BEFORE YOU CROSS
- PUT YOUR PHONE DOWN AND HEAD UP WHEN CROSSING
- HAVE CHILDREN LEARN TO MAKE EYE CONTACT WITH DRIVERS BEFORE CROSSING IN FRONT OF THEM
- WALK ON SIDEWALKS, NOT THE STREET
- KEEP A LOOKOUT FOR CARS THAT ARE TURNING OR BACKING UP

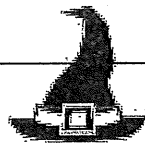
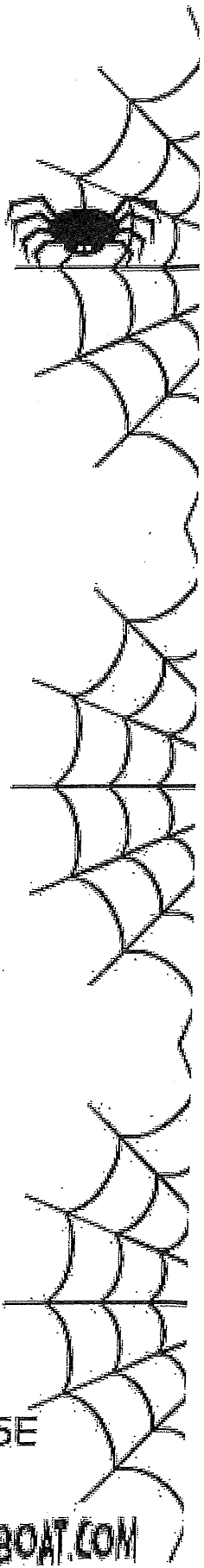
**WHEN DRIVING**

- DRIVE SLOWLY AND STAY ALERT
- TAKE TIME TO LOOK FOR CHILDREN AT INTERSECTIONS, MEDIANS AND CURBS
- BACK YOUR VEHICLE UP SLOWLY AND TRIPLE CHECK TO MAKE SURE NO ONE IS AROUND
- ELIMINATE DISTRACTIONS
- AROUND THE HOURS OF 5:30 TO 9:30 THERE WILL BE A LOT OF CHILDREN OUT. DRIVE EXTRA CAREFUL AT THESE HOURS
- STOP FOR ALL CHILDREN AND ALLOW THEM TO CROSS IN FRONT OF YOU TO ELIMATE THE RISK OF THEM DARTING OUT



# HALLOWEEN WORDSEARCH

N E E W O L L A H R B R Q R N  
 I Q H N R O C Y D N A C M G V  
 E T T V W C O S T U M E A U R  
 A Y X H F I C D X O M S R V E  
 E F V I G M T C H M M P O S B  
 Z Y M F Z I J C O R L O U P O  
 S V M X E T R N H R B O N U T  
 K S A A A H S F S Q H K K M C  
 S T E E L T Q H B D B Y W P O  
 A S R Y E T O Y E D F C W K B  
 M T C R S R D T W S T L H I G  
 O A S O R N N F B B C R Q N C  
 A A H O A U A L O J S A I L R  
 L G R C A G I Z C G Z Z R C E  
 W N Q H H U K W W L Q F I Y K



- |       |         |        |               |
|-------|---------|--------|---------------|
| GHOST | PUMPKIN | FRIGHT | COB WEBS      |
| WITCH | MONSTER | HORROR | CANDY CORN    |
| TRICK | COSTUME | SCREAM | HALLOWEEN     |
| TREAT | SPOOKY  | BOO    | OCTOBER       |
| CANDY | SCARY   | MASKS  | HAUNTED HOUSE |



# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN . . .

OCTOBER 2023

- 3 HS VB St. Francis/Colby @ Colby 4 PM
- 4 Early Release 1 PM, NO PM PK, In-service
- 5 JH VB Triplains/Brewster @ Logan 4 PM, JH FB Triplains/Brewster @ Logan 6 PM
- 6 \*HS FB @ St. Francis 7 PM
- 8 4-H 7 PM
- 9 NO SCHOOL In-service , FFA Fall Mtg./In-service @ Quinter 9 AM, B.O.E. Mtg. 7:30 PM
- 10 HS VB Northern Valley/Stockton @ Almena 4 PM
- 11 Greenhand Conference @ Hays 9 AM
- 12 HS VB WKLL/NWK Tournament @ TBD 9 AM  
JH VB Golden Plains @ Rexford 4 PM, JH FB Golden Plains @ Rexford 6 PM
- 13 End of First Quarter  
\*HS FB vs. Wallace County @ Logan 7 PM
- 14 HS VB WKLL/NWK Tournament @ Colby TBD
- 16 Hearing & Vision Screening @ 9:30 AM PJSHS, DES to follow
- 18 Flu Shots PJSHS @ 9:30 AM DES to follow
- 19 JH VB WKLL Tournament @ Colby 9AM
- 20 NO SCHOOL Workday, \*HS FB Sylvan/Lucas @ Palco 7 PM
- 21 HS VB Sub-State. TBD
- 24 Josten's Sophomores @ 10:30 AM, Seniors @ 11:00 AM
- 26 NO SCHOOL, Parent-Teacher Conferences, HS FB Bracket Play
- 27 NO SCHOOL Comp Day, HS VB State
- 28 HS VB State
- 30 HS Scholars Bowl @ Stockton 4 PM

