



Virginia Literacy Act and VALLSS

What does research say about how we learn to read?

Here's What We Know

We are not born wired to read, but all students can be taught to read.



Students must be taught to crack the code to decode efficiently.



All students benefit from systematic and explicit instruction.



Reading comprehension is complex and involves multiple skills.



Literacy skills develop over time with explicit instruction and multiple opportunities for practice.



What Families Can Expect



Division and School Level

- Division-wide literacy plan
- Evidence-based literacy curriculum
- New screener (VALLSS to replace PALS)



Classroom Level

- Evidence-based literacy instruction
- Use of approved high quality instructional materials
- Teacher professional development in new instructional practices
- Student reading plans (as needed based on VALLSS)
- Reports from VALLSS



Home Level

- Free online resources to support learning at home
- Participation in student reading plan meeting

What Can Families Do Now?

Talk, talk, talk

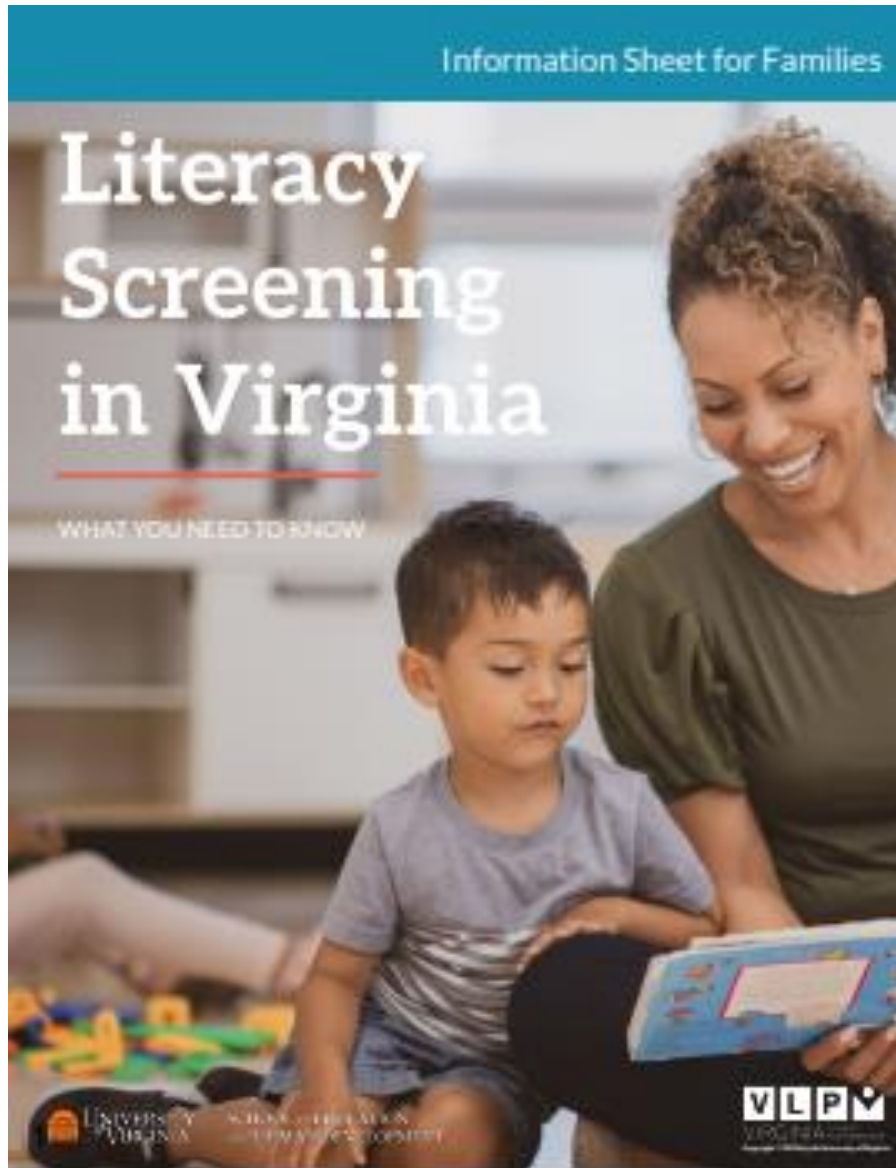
- Ask your child lots of questions about their experiences, interests, and books.
- Use language to describe and explain shared activities—special events and everyday activities like shopping.

Pay attention to print

- Help your child notice letters and words all around them.
- Connect written language to children's interests and activities. Use reading and writing for recipes, video game instructions, learning song lyrics, texting grandparents, or birthday wish lists.

Make room for reading

- Join your local library and visit often.
- Read to and with your child.
- Limit screen time to make room for reading.



Virginia Language and Literacy Screening System (VALLSS) Information

Please use [this link](#) to get more information on the new Literacy Screening process in Virginia.

In this booklet, you will be provided information on:

- The bands of risk and their meaning
- Different levels of instruction
- Ways to support your child at home

Resources for Families at Home

Please use [this link](#) to get more information on ways you can help your child at home with:

- Listening/reading books online
- Computer games to improve literacy skills
- Playing with sounds
- Learning letter names and sounds
- Reading and spelling words
- Learning new vocabulary
- Reading comprehension
- Language development
- Writing
- Fluency (reading with appropriate pace and expression)

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VLLP VIRGINIA LITERACY LEARNING PATHWAY

VALLSS

VLA Screener Background Research Educators Families Communities Login/Enter Score

Resources for Families

Welcome familial! Whether you want to learn about a certain topic or find activities to do at home with your child, we hope you can find what you need here!

- HOW CAN MY CHILD LISTEN TO BOOKS AT HOME?
- HOW CAN MY CHILD PLAY COMPUTER GAMES TO HELP IMPROVE LITERACY SKILLS?
- HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD PLAY WITH SOUNDS?
- HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD LEARN THEIR LETTER NAMES AND SOUNDS?
- HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD READ AND SPELL WORDS?
- HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD LEARN NEW VOCABULARY?
- HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD WITH READING COMPREHENSION?
- HOW CAN I SUPPORT MY CHILD'S LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT?
- HOW CAN I SUPPORT MY CHILD'S WRITING?
- HOW CAN MY CHILD READ ONLINE BOOKS AT HOME?
- HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD READ WITH AN APPROPRIATE PACE AND EXPRESSION?
- GENERAL INFORMATION

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VLLP VIRGINIA LITERACY LEARNING PATHWAY

Where can I find out more?

Follow the order of the steps below.
Steps 1-3 are hyperlinked!

Step 1

[Virginia Literacy
Act in PWCS
webpage](#)

Step 2

[Virginia
Department of
Education
webpage](#)

Step 3

[Virginia Literacy
Partnership \(VLP\)
webpage](#)

Step 4

Your child's
teacher

Step 5

Your school's
reading
specialists

