



## B.C. First Nations Head Start Integrating Literacy Activities

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PROMOTING LITERACY CAN BE A FUN WAY OF INTEGRATING SOME SCHOOL READINESS SKILLS INTO YOUR PROGRAM.

At the Cape Mudge Head Start Program, literacy is integrated into every aspect of the education programs. “We have created beautiful books with the children’s photographs and simple ‘readable’ words as well as a great many games and songs. On the walls we have the Kwakwaka’wakw alphabet as well as the English alphabet. We have the children’s name tags posted with magnets or velcro in all centres within the program (for easy removal and replacement) for the children to use in printing, singing, rhyming, playing games, and reading.”

“We have also established a Book Bag Club. At the beginning of each year, a child is given a book bag to take home daily. Every morning the children come in and sign out a book from our program. They then take it home and read it with their family.” Family members initial a note attached to the bag and the children bring the book back. Children receive reading awards once they have read 18 books.

*“They [parents and children] all really enjoy it. It’s a time they put aside to do reading with their children. They really see it in the children. We have three-year-old children who know the names of all the other children in the class.”*

Shannon Grant, Head Start ECE Supervisor