



**Umbrella Family and
Child Centres of Hamilton**

3.5 LITERACY POLICY

MANUAL	Child Care Centre Program Policy Manual
SECTION	3- Expression
POLICY	3.5 Literacy Policy
LAST REVISED	June 19, 2024

RATIONALE

How Does Learning Happen? tells us that “opportunities for children to explore language and literacy through play contribute to their development of strong language and cognitive abilities”.

UFCC programs are designed to provide rich and varied opportunities for children to explore and engage in literacy experiences. Educators support emerging literacy through storytelling, conversations, reading, creating print rich environments and by providing open-ended writing and print materials across age groups.

RESPONSIBILITY

All staff.

PROCEDURE

We support children’s literacy development in the following ways:

1. Engaging them in conversation
2. Setting up play-based learning environments
3. Being aware of the importance of environmental print—signs, labels and logos within the centre and the community
4. Spoken language, especially rhythmic and rhyming stories that emphasize sounds of words build phonological awareness
5. Reading to them and talking about the story
6. Making writing materials available in all areas of the program, indoors and outdoors
7. Encouraging families to read to children in their home language

Policy Attachments: N/A