

# **GUIDE ON HOW PARENTS CAN HELP PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR ELPAC**

*Suggestions on how parents can help develop academic skills that will help your child achieve academic success.*

## **LISTENING (oral comprehension)**

1. Rent audio books or find the book on YouTube and listen to it together (you can follow along using the actual book or just listen to it together)
2. Read the book/chapter/section before and create a couple of questions. Then have your child concentrate on finding the answers to those questions as he/she listens to what is being said/read (this will help him/her focus on what him/her should be listening to/looking for)
3. Tell your child a story and have him/her summarize what he/she heard.
4. Give your child a set of directions (on how to do something) and have him/her repeat the steps back to you in order (concentrate on transitional words, first, then, next, lastly/at the end)
5. Listen to the lyrics of a song and have him/her explain to you what the song is about and ask him/her to identify a key phrase/line of the song
6. Have your child watch and listen to cartoons/TV programs in English and have him/her follow along, use the closed captioning function on TV/cable, to help them see the relationship between the pronunciation and spelling of the words.

## **READING (reading comprehension)**

1. Have your child read aloud to you or with you every day for at least 30 minutes. Make reading a part of your evening routine.
2. Have your child tell you what the story is going to be about based on the title and/or the picture on the book cover.
3. As you read ask your child to complete the following statements...have him/her state his/her response in a complete sentence and with as many details as possible.
  - a) My favorite part of the story is...because...
  - b) My favorite character is...because...
  - c) The setting – where the story takes places? The story takes place in...
  - d) This is what happened at the beginning of the story...
  - e) This is an important event from the middle of the story...
  - f) This is what happened at the end of the story...
  - g) This story reminds me of...
  - h) I can predict what will happen next...

- i) Another way the story can end....
- j) A lesson I learned from this story was

## **WRITING**

1. Have your child describe a picture with as many adjectives (descriptors as possible)
2. Have your child describe what is happening in the picture/scene....
3. Have your child write what he/she thinks will happen next...
4. Have your child identify the errors in sentences and have him/her rewrite the sentences correctly
5. Have your child combine two simple sentences into one complex sentence
6. Have your child write a summary of what he/she read (book/chapter) and emphasize using transitional words (at the beginning, in the middle, at the end of the book/chapter)

## **SPEAKING (oral expression)**

1. Have your child explain to you in full/complete sentences what he/she did at school
  - a. One thing that made him/her smile at school and explain why
  - b. One thing that made him/her sad at school and explain why
  - c. Have him/her give an example of how he/she was a good friend today...
  - d. Ask your child, if I called your teacher today, what would he/she say about you? And have him/her tell you what the teacher would say.
2. Have your child express his/her opinion about a topic
3. Have your child make predictions about what he/she read or what he/she thinks will happen next
4. Have your child repeat the directions in sequential order
5. Have your child take a stand/choose a side on a certain topic and have him/her explain why (justify)
6. Have your child ask you questions about your day...
7. Have your child watch TV in English and have them follow along (closed captioning function) and have him/her say the words aloud
8. Have your child look at a picture/photo and have him/her create a story then ask him/her to share the story with you (orally)