



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Emerging Literacy 0 to 6 Years

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
ECE	2007	34686	2, 2004	EXT	1.00	TWMBA

Academic group:	FOEDU
Academic org:	FOE004
Student contribution band:	1
ASCED code:	070101

STAFFING

Examiner: Deborah Geoghegan

Moderator: Shirley O'Neill

RATIONALE

Language is part of literacy, which incorporates listening, speaking, reading, writing and viewing, all embedded in the social context. Because young children may spend a great deal of their early years in Early Childhood Centres, the nurturing and enhancement of emergent literacy become the responsibility of early educators. It is important to take account of those experiences children encounter through their mother tongue; their culture; their play; their early experiences in speech and stories, as well as in songs and books, from which they construct knowledge contributing to their ability to emerge as readers and writers.

SYNOPSIS

This course revolves around five principles which research suggests enhance the emergent literacy of children. These are that: emergent literacy is embedded in a social context; play is an ideal setting which allows young children to practise, elaborate and extend emergent literacy; children require frequent experiences in listening and sharing stories to demonstrate the facilitating power of language; children require frequent story book readings both as active listeners and independent readers; the modification of play environments can have an important impact on the literacy behaviour of children. These principles will be explored to illustrate the way in which effective strategies can be developed by early educators to enhance the emerging literacy of young children.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. demonstrate their ability to design and implement emergent literacy programs

2. show an understanding of importance of the cultural context of emerging literacy
3. reflect on and analyse the way literacy develops through play
4. select and reflect on the qualities of stories and their role in enhancing emerging literacy
5. consolidate and create ideas for creating an environments that enhance emerging literacy

TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. The social context of literacy: literacy as a way of thinking; literacy as political consciousness	20.00
2. Research into Emerging Literacy: the social context of literacy; play and literacy; stories and literacy; books and literacy; environments and literacy	40.00
3. The adult's role in fostering emerging literacy: teachers; parents; scaffolding; zone of proximal development	20.00
4. Designing literacy programs in early childhood	20.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

Neuman, S & Roskos, K 1993, *Language and Literacy Learning in the Early Years: An Integrated Approach*, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Fort Worth.

REFERENCE MATERIALS:

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

1999, *Issues and Practices in Literacy Development*, Australian Early Childhood Association, ACT.

Campbell, R & Green, D 2002, *Literacies and Learners: Current Perspectives*, 2nd edn, Prentice Hall Australia, Frenchs Forest.

Fields, M & Spangler, K 2000, *Let's Begin Reading Right: A Developmental Approach to Emergent Literacy*, 4th edn, Merrill Publishing Co, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.

Garton, A & Pratt, C 1998, *Learning to be Literate: The Development of Spoken and Written Language*, 2nd edn, Blackwell, Oxford, UK.

- Jalongo, MR 2000, *Early Childhood Language Arts*, 2nd edn, Allyn & Bacon, Boston.
- Kress, C 1996, *Before Writing: Rethinking the Paths to Literacy*, Routledge, New York.
- Machado, JM 2002, *Early Childhood Experiences in Language Arts: Emerging Literacy*, 7th edn, Delmar Publications, Albany, New York.
- Martin, R 1992, *Big Books as Models for Writing: Classroom Strategies. Language workshop 1*, Martin International, Brooklyn Park, SA.
- Morrow, LM 1997, *Literacy Development in the Early Years: Helping Children Read and Write*, 3rd edn, Allyn & Bacon, Boston.
- Neuman, S, Copple, C & Bredekamp, S 2000, *Learning to Read and Write: Developmentally Appropriate Practices for Young Children*, National Assoc for the Education of Young Children, Washington.
- Raines, S & Canady, R 1990, *The Whole Language Kindergarten*, Teachers College Press, New York.
- Spodek, B & Saracho, O (eds) 1993, *Language and Literacy in Early Childhood Education*, Teachers College Press, New York.
- Strickland, D & Morrow, L (eds) 1989, *Emerging Literacy: Young Children Learn to Read and Write*, International Reading Association, Newark.
- Tite, H 1991, *Play with Print: Children's Preschool Initiatives to Become Readers and Writers*, Creche and Kindergarten Association of Qld, Newmarket, Qld.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS:

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessment	40.00
Directed Study	90.00
Private Study	35.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
ESSAY	40.00	40.00	03 Sep 2004
LITERACY PROGRAM	60.00	60.00	05 Nov 2004

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- Attendance requirements:
 - There are no attendance requirements for this course. However, it is the students' responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:

- (a) To complete each of the assessment items satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for each assessment item.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
(b) If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval then a penalty of 10% of the total marks gained by the student for the assignment will apply for each working day late.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
(d) To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must submit all of the summative assessment items and achieve at least 50% of the available weighted marks for those items.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
(a) The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:
(e) There is no examination in this course.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
(d) There will be no Deferred or Supplementary examinations in this course.
- 8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm> or in the current USQ Handbook.