



## **Media and Literacy**

Media use is a large part of many children's daily lives. It encompasses television, movies, videos and computer games. Children can learn many things from these activities. If a child's media use is appropriate, there are endless learning opportunities. Educational and age-appropriate media can lead children to explore language and movement and to discover new experiences.

Choose media that introduces and expands on literacy concepts, such as letter recognition and phonics building. Media can become a valuable literacy tool when combined with reading aloud to your child, making books available and having a positive attitude about reading.

## **Media Tips and Activities**

- Choose educational and age-appropriate media for children.
- Limit the amount of time children spend with media. Do not be afraid of using the "off" button!
- Use educational television shows as conversation builders. Talk about what happened during the show. Ask children to share their observations and thoughts about the topic.
- Expand on a child's experiences and interests by choosing media that include topics they are interested in and topics they have experienced. Through media, children can also discover new ideas and experience new adventures that they otherwise might not be able to explore.
- Head to the library and check out books that expand on topics that interest your child. Also choose videos, games and television shows that expand on these topics.
- Watch with your child. Enjoy the media viewing experience together.

## Program Connection

### ***SESAME STREET***

#### **“Lucy the Lazy Lizard” (#4138)**

**Wednesday, September 10, 2008, 10 a.m.**

Elmo’s favorite book is *Lucy the Lazy Lizard*. He loves it so much that he asks Maria to read it to him “just one more time” for the 11th time that morning! She agrees and goes on to read the story of Lucy the Lazy Lizard, who lounged lazily on her lovely little log when a long, loud train came lumbering down the tracks heading straight for her. This is Elmo’s favorite part. Luckily, Lucy is the strongest lizard in Lackawanna, and she lifts the tracks over her head at the last minute so that the train passes right over. That was close. Now who can Elmo find to read him the story again? He comes upon Telly, who is playing with his train set. There’s no time, though, because the Triangle Express has to get triangles to Tuscaloosa. But wait—the triangles have already gone to Tuscaloosa! This gives Elmo an idea: Maybe the triangles could go to Lackawanna instead. Telly loves this idea because who doesn’t need triangles in Lackawanna? Elmo goes on to tell his favorite story about Lucy as Telly excitedly acts it out with his train set. It is the greatest train adventure ever! Telly can’t wait to read this book now. Luckily, Elmo knows it by heart. **Educational Objective: Literacy.**

### ***SUPER WHY!***

#### **“The Three Little Pigs” (#101)**

**Thursday, September 11, 2008, 9 a.m.**

Jill keeps knocking down Pig’s tower, and he wants her to stop! The Super Readers fly into the Three Little Pigs story and come face to face with the Big Bad Wolf, who knows a thing or two about knocking things down. When all the huffing and puffing dies down, Pig learns an important lesson about friendship. **Educational Objectives: To learn about friendship; practice the alphabet, especially identifying the letters W, O, L and F; rhyme with “all” words; and use opposite words to change the story.**

#### Works Cited

Graham, Hess H., Kaiser Family Foundation: New Study Finds Children Age Zero to Six Spend As Much Time With TV, Computers and Video Games As Playing Outside, <http://www.kff.org/entmedia/entmedia102803nr.cfm>, October 28, 2003.

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