



Oral Language Development

Spring 2013



The Importance of Oral Language

- “Oral language is the foundation of literacy learning” Fountas and Pinnell
 - Speaking
 - Listening
 - Thinking
 - Use in print



Effective Communication for Different Purposes

- With a *peer* to solve a problem or for conversation
- With a teacher in his or her varied roles
- In a small group for instruction or center activity
- In a large group for instruction and academic conversation



Interactive Read Aloud

- Ask “what” and “why” questions
- Expand What your students say
- Ask students to expand on what they say
- Ask open –ended questions



Open-ended Questions

- “What do you think about...?”
- “What if....?”
- “How did that happen?”
- “Tell me about.....”
- “I wonder how....?”
- “What do you think?:

An abstract artwork featuring a central globe with green and blue continents and oceans. Two hands are visible: a brown hand at the top left and a white hand at the bottom center, both appearing to hold or interact with the globe. The background is dark green with white, wavy lines. The top and bottom edges of the image are framed by red and orange abstract shapes.

Oral Language Development

- **Centers**

- **Listening** (talk about story with a partner)
- **Read/Write the room** (with a partner)
- **Pocket Charts** (discuss and match phrases to sentences)
- **Big books** (interact with text, taking turns to be teacher)
- **Respond to learning** (discuss pictures, writing with a partner)



Oral Language Standards for Kindergarten

- Listen to a variety of literary forms, including stories and poems.
- Participate effectively in a variety of oral language activities, including group and partner collaboration.
- Follow implicit rules for conversation, including taking turns and staying on topic.



Oral Language Standards for Kindergarten

- Follow one-step directions.
- Begin to ask how and why questions.
- Expand understanding and use of word meanings.
- Express ideas in complete sentences and express needs through direct requests.



Reflection

- How else can we develop oral language skills in the Kindergarten classroom?