

Episode 45: How to Integrate Early Literacy and Early Numeracy

In our previous podcast episode, we discussed the importance of integrating early literacy and numeracy. In this episode, early and elementary learning specialists Becky Lewis, Sam Statler, and Amber Myers discuss the “how” of integrating these two topics as it pertains to early educators and other childcare providers serving children from birth to age six.

Integration of these content areas can be used in all classrooms and grade levels, but this episode focuses primarily on the early years. Amber shares her knowledge and personal experiences from her time in the PreK and Kindergarten classroom and talks in depth about using a project approach to integrating literacy and math. By allowing our students to ask questions and facilitate collaborative conversations, we are helping them establish an educational foundation. Taking the time to listen to students’ questions and tap into their interests, teachers are creating strong relationships and trust with their students. Tune in to hear more about using a project approach to integrate literacy and math into your classroom.

What to Listen for:

- Why is it important to observe our students in the classroom?
- How do you determine what is developmentally appropriate for the children in your care or classrooms?
- Why is it helpful to choose a standard cluster instead of one specific standard when planning a project?
- What occurs during the planning phase (phase 1)?
- During phase 1 how do you begin with helping the topic to emerge with students?
- What takes place during phase 2 (investigation)
- What occurs during phase 3? Why is this phase a little more difficult for educators?

Resources:

Helm, J. H., & Katz, L. G. (2016). *Young investigators: The Project Approach in the early years*. Teachers College Press.

Hynes-Berry, M. (n.d.). *Now read this! Books that Bring Math to Life*. NAEYC.
Retrieved November 16, 2021, from
<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/tyc/oct2017/now-read-this-books-bring-math-life>.

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