

What is Visual Literacy? Take a Look!



Visual literacy is the ability to understand and create meaning through pictures, graphs, charts, maps and other images.



Photos, drawings, facial expression and body language help us understand spoken and printed words. Images also explain information clearly. Where would we be without maps, day planners, and illustrated instructions for making crafts or assembling new toys?

How can parents help children learn visual literacy?

- Ask your child to draw pictures about a story you've read together.
- Search books for exclamation and question marks, or print that is **bold** or **big**. What do these markings mean? Play with voice expression as you read to show their meaning.
- Explore picture dictionaries together.
- Ask your child to draw a map of her pet's travels inside or outside the house.
- Play boards games together.

Provided by: *Ontario Early Years Literacy Specialists*