



**EAST POINTE**  
**COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

## **Essential Instructional Practices in Early Literacy**

1. Deliberate, researched-informed efforts to foster literacy motivation and engagement within and across lessons
2. Read alouds of age appropriate books and other materials, print or digital
3. Small group and individual instruction, using a variety of grouping strategies, most often with flexible groups formed and instruction targeted to children's observed and assessed needs in specific aspects of literacy development
4. Activities that build phonological awareness
5. Explicit instruction in letter-sound relationships
6. Research-and standard-aligned writing instruction
7. Intentional and ambitious efforts to build vocabulary and content knowledge
8. Abundant reading material and reading opportunities in the classroom
9. Ongoing observation and assessment of children's language and literacy development that informs their education
10. Collaboration with families in promoting literacy