Support Menu
Educator Workshops

Tandem® workshops are provided as a support service to supplement the StoryCycles® program. Our workshops are designed to be an interactive educational experience, drawing on the knowledge and skills you already have as an experienced educator, and exploring new ways to build your young students’ early language and literacy skills in the classroom.

Select one of the topics below, then contact your Tandem Community Literacy Specialist to schedule the workshop of your choice.

- **Early Language and the Growing Brain**
  Educators will deepen their understanding of early childhood brain development as it relates to literacy. We will review the latest research on the subject and practice specific interactive classroom Read Aloud strategies that support early language acquisition and development.

- **Story, Song, and Movement**
  Join us as we share and practice songs and dynamic movement games for the classroom that support students’ development not only in early literacy, but in a number of learning areas that are vital for kindergarten readiness.

- **Building Literacy-Rich Environments**
  Educators will learn how to build their students’ literacy skills all day long, not just during storytime. We will share and practice a variety of word games, rhyming songs, and hands-on activities geared specifically toward developing the American Library Association’s Six Skills of Early Literacy.

- **The Multilingual Classroom**
  Educators will identify common myths and truths of language development in bilingual children and practice strategies that best support the growth of English language learners in the classroom.

- **Building on Play: Authentic Assessment**
  Join us as we explore the value of free play and how to use this time to complete individual assessments in this hands on workshop. Educators will receive a DRDP-based observation tool to support ongoing individual assessments.
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Educator Workshops Continued

Select one of the topics below, then contact your Tandem Community Literacy Specialist to schedule the workshop of your choice.

- **Storywalking**
  Combining interactive classroom Read Alouds with multi-disciplinary extension activities, this approach to curriculum planning explores the versatility of books as teaching tools. A storywalk is a valuable method for scaffolding vocabulary, boosting student’s curiosity and critical thinking skills, and supporting English language learners.

- **Cultivating Creativity**
  In this workshop we practice teaching techniques and activities that encourage young children to explore the world of art, take ownership of their creative process, and build the language skills they need to describe, criticize and develop artwork.

- **Making Math Meaningful**
  A hands on exploration of how to spark a love of early math. We will discuss the five math preschool learning foundations through fun math activities that you can easily implement in your preschool class.

- **Phonological Awareness: From Rhythms to Rhymes**
  Educators will discuss the difference between Phonological Awareness, Phonemic Awareness, and Phonics and why the development of these skills leads to later reading achievement. Through fun games and activities, educators will also learn new tools to support the development of young children’s phonological awareness in developmentally appropriate ways.
Support Menu
Family Workshops

Tandem’s family workshops are designed to provide parents and caregivers with more in-depth information on early childhood brain development, interactive book-sharing techniques, and strategies for strengthening children’s early literacy and language skills at home. These interactive, one-hour workshops build upon families’ strengths, ensuring that families have the resources, skills, and confidence they need to support their children to reach kindergarten ready to succeed.

Select one of the topics below, then contact your Tandem Community Literacy Specialist to schedule the family workshop of your choice.

- **Family Introduction to StoryCycles®**
  In this introductory workshop, families will discuss why early literacy is fundamental to academic success and practice interactive book-sharing strategies that make building early literacy skills fun!

- **Early Language and the Growing Brain**
  Families will learn why sharing books at home is so important and effective for supporting early brain development in young children. They will also learn and practice specific strategies for making the most of every book-sharing opportunity.

- **Word Play All Day!**
  Children learn language from everything around them! In this workshop families will identify six key skills that children need to be ready to learn to read. They will also have a chance to practice word games, songs, and hands-on activities they can share with their children to help build literacy skills anytime, anywhere.

- **The Bilingual Family**
  Families will discuss the myths and truths surrounding language development in bilingual children and receive clear strategies for supporting their kids’ growth and school success.

- **Sharing Stories, Sharing Feelings**
  Social and emotional development is important general well-being and school readiness. In this workshop, families will practice activities and strategies they can use at home to support children to build trusting relationships and recognize, manage, and express emotions through book-sharing.

- **Families Ready to Read**
  More than a workshop, this is an opportunity for families to come together to support one another in building book-sharing routines at home. Families are invited to share tips and success stories, as well as concerns and challenges, while discovering new ideas and building the confidence to try them out with their children.

- **Power of Play**
  Plays is vital for developing social skills and critical thinking in young children. In this workshop, families will practice using supportive language to develop these skills, and share ideas about how to facilitate play at home.