



**HANDS &
VOICES™**

*"What works
for your child
is what makes
the choice right"™*



**Family
Leadership in
Language &
Learning
(FL3)**



November - December E-news

Partner Spotlight



The goal of the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM - pronounced "en-cham") at Utah State University is to ensure that all infants and toddlers with hearing loss are identified as early as possible and provided with timely and appropriate audiological, educational, and medical intervention.

NCHAM's research, training, and technical assistance



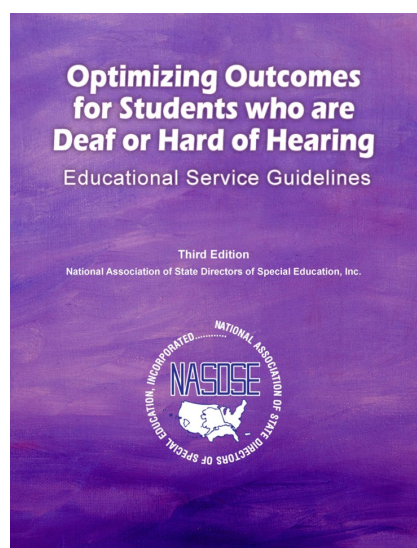
Greetings!

As we move into late fall and towards the end of the year, things keep moving forward here at H&V and the FL3 project. One of the focuses of the FL3 project is literacy. We are celebrating National Literacy month in November. Be sure to check out the [FL3 website](#) for information on literacy resources and research. You can help families make every

activities contribute to this goal by working to achieve the following objectives:

- Every child born with a hearing loss is identified before 3 months of age and provided with timely and appropriate intervention by 6 months of age.
- Every family of an infant with hearing loss receives culturally-competent family support as desired.
- All newborns have a "medical home."
- State Departments of Health have effective newborn hearing screening tracking and data management systems which are linked with other relevant public health information systems.

You can find resources and information about local EHDl programs, past trainings, and more on [NCHAM's website](#).



New Resource

A new publication, "Optimizing Outcomes for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing:

day a reading day by sharing this information on literacy development.

Exploring books and print together is fun for any child at any age both because they like to learn new words and because they love being snuggled. Reading together every day makes the biggest difference in helping them become a reader.

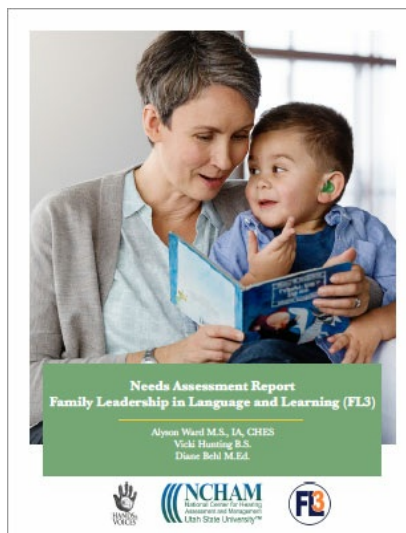
Here are some every day reading tips for families:

- Let your child see you reading. You are your child's role model, so let her see that you enjoy reading books, magazines, newspapers, and other print materials. This will motivate her to read too!
- Cuddle up! Your child loves to be close to you, and reading provides wonderful opportunities to bond and spend quality time together.
- Let your child enjoy the same book again and again. It's an important way for him to remember information and learn new words.
- Visit the library. It's a wonderful place for your child to find and borrow all kinds of books and magazines.

As always, if you have questions or need help please don't hesitate to reach out to us. You can direct any FL3 questions to the [FL3 Team](#)

Warm wishes,
The FL3 Team

Needs Assessment: Did You Know?



As part of the National Needs Assessment that was recently published we asked parents about their involvement with EHDl Programs. Nineteen percent of parents responded that they didn't know about the

EHDl program and additionally, 21% indicated that they were not involved but would like to be. This prompts us to think about how EHDl programs (and Family-based Organizations (FBOs)) are getting the word out about opportunities for parents to provide input to and participate in EHDl related activities. What kinds of things can you do right now? If email addresses are collected in the EHDl database, are you able to email newly identified parents to share opportunities to get involved? Do you have a Facebook page that you can post information about

Educational Service Guidelines" has just been released.

Written by a team of experts from a range of professional backgrounds, and facilitated by CEASD's Barbara Raimondo and national consultant Cheryl Johnson, the guidelines begin by spelling out ten essential principles underlying successful education for deaf and hard of hearing students, and end with an assessment tool that programs can use to evaluate their ability to serve deaf students. The tool is designed to help programs develop a plan for improvement.

The book also includes a wealth of resource listings and references for further information.

Published by the National Association of State Directors of Special Education, the guidelines are [downloadable](#) or available [for purchase for \\$25](#).

The self-assessment form can be [downloaded separately](#).



Upcoming Events

opportunities? What are some ways that you are getting the word out to families about the resources and supports you provide? Send us an [email](#) to share your ideas and we'll collate them and share them back next time.

[View the full Report.](#)

Nov 1st is National Family Literacy Day



National Family Literacy Day is observed each year on November 1. This day focuses on special activities and events that showcase the importance of family literacy programs. First held in 1994, National Literacy Day kicks off National Literacy Month in November. During the month of November, there are many events which are held at schools, libraries and other literacy organizations.

Even the earliest experiences of books shared with children begins to build literacy skills. Children begin with learning about language, sounds, awareness of words and print, books and stories. Rocking, singing, and music begin to build the idea of rhythm. Young children quickly learn which way a book is held and how to scan from left to right. Literacy is most commonly understood as reading and writing, but you are helping your baby build literacy skills from the first time you share a book with them. Families have a vital role to play in helping their child with early literacy development.

There are many stages to literacy development from early emergent literacy skills to fully fluent reading and writing for a variety of different audiences. The important thing to remember is that learning to read and write doesn't start in kindergarten or first grade. Developing literacy skills begins at birth through everyday loving interactions, such as sharing books, telling stories, and communicating with one another.



[Find resources and research about literacy on our website.](#)

Check out the H&V calendar
for events and trainings.

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