

EARLY LEARNING OF READING AND WRITING IS A PRIORITY

Learning to read and write is presently of utmost importance for all human beings as it allows for interaction with one another and it relates to multiple and relevant knowledge. Unfortunately, not everybody has acquired the sufficient basic skills required to read and write and this has contributed to the difficulties many people encounter when trying to further their education later.

Lack of quality in literacy and early learning skills has far reaching consequences on the society; and because education is the essential for national development, there is need to maintain quality at every level of education, especially in the early stages. Once a child misses that early stage to learn to read and write, it is usually difficult to get back to the basis. Mastery of reading in the early years of schooling are crucial factors in the basic foundation to access other types of knowledge. In many cases, they assure a key role in the child's future endeavors.

Early childhood learning skills programs are a good investment to the society, therefore, the government should ensure adequate finances are allocated to improve the situation of learning reading and writing by ensuring that:

- Instructional facilities and reading facilities are adequately upgraded to standard.
- Intensive teacher training in literacy instructional practices are definite.
- Reading should occupy a place in the curriculum i.e. priority attention to be given to literacy.
- Reading clubs should be inspired and encouraged in all schools.

- Teachers should receive adequate incentives for work, this would improve their performance.
- Provision of adequate books and annual review/update/upgrade of the books.

It should be generally noted that, quality literacy and early learning skills would provide an environment that allows children reach their future potentials with ease.