

**Module: Communication and Emergent Literacy:  
 Early Intervention Issues**

**Session 5: Interventions to Facilitate Emergent  
 Literacy**

**Handout E: Literacy-Enriched Play**

Murphy, J.L. (2005). *Literacy-enriched play*. Chapel Hill, NC: Early Intervention Training Center for Infants and Toddlers With Visual Impairments, FPG Child Development Institute, UNC-CH.

Adapted from Justice, L.M., & Pullen, P.C. (2003). Promising interventions for promoting emergent literacy skills: Three evidence-based approaches. *Topics in Early Childhood Special Education, 23*(3), 93-113.

Literacy-enriched play, an evidence-based intervention, involves providing literacy resources in children’s dramatic play settings (Justice & Pullen, 2003). When literacy props and resources are available to children, they tend to naturally integrate them into their play.

The following table provides examples of dramatic play and the literary and pretend props associated with the specific type of play.

<b>Dramatic Play</b>	<b>Literacy Props</b>	<b>Pretend Props</b>
Restaurant	Menus, pens, order notepads, cookbooks, coupons	Cash register
Kitchen	Cookbooks, notepads (shopping list), pens, menus, coupons, empty food containers/boxes	Pots, pans, cups, plates, utensils, napkins, apron
Grocery store	Notepads (shopping list), empty food containers/boxes, wall signs, price stickers, food labels (sticky notes), coupons, sales flyers	Table or crates, shopping baskets, real or pretend food, cash register, money, paper bags
Post Office	Envelopes, pens, stationary, stickers/stamps, junk-mail	mailbox
Doctor	Appointment book, wall signs, magazines, prescriptions, charts	Bandages, stethoscope, pill bottles, tongue depressors
Housekeeping	Telephone books, message pads, pens/pencils/pads for shopping list, TV guide, magazines, books, mail	Vacuum, feather duster, spray bottles
Office	File folders, telephone, stationary, stickers, labels, stamp pad and stampers, wall signs, computer, message pad	Briefcases, calculator