

Section F – Glossary

This section is designed to give you definitions of terms that have been used in the manual.

Word	Definition
Advocate	To support or speak on behalf of oneself or one's child in a social, educational or employment setting
Analogic	A process that is similar in some respects
Andragogy	The art and science of how adults learn
Assessment	Identification or determination of present skill level and knowledge; the key question is "what is?"
Auditory Discrimination	The ability to distinguish one sound from another in spoken language
Brain Gym	Based on the principle that by moving the body, brain power (thinking, problem solving...) is naturally enhanced, Brain Gym is a system of quick, targeted physical activities aimed at improving athletic and intellectual skills. It is part of a larger program called Educational Kinesiology (or Edu-K)
Calm Assertiveness	This is an action whereby the person is unruffled (or calm) but can maintain personal point of view and get one's point across. The person is able to maintain and insert his or her perspective
Contextual memory	The brain does not learn in isolation but rather, learns by connecting things; contextual memory is learning and then remembering (storage and retrieval) something within the context of something else
Curriculum Expectations	Ministry of Education requirements for each subject of study from JK to Grade 12. For example, in Grade 1 there are specific curriculum expectations for English, math, science and the arts
Decoding	A process of developing an understanding of the relationship between individual or groups of written symbols or letters and spoken language (establishing meaning from written symbols or letters)
Dialogic Process	A process whereby two or more people are engaging in language or thought processes as it relates to text or stories
Embedded Skills	Skills that are hidden within other skills or tied to individual tasks; for example, knowing the alphabet is embedded within reading text
Emergent Literacy	Refers to children's literacy development (all the knowledge and skills related to literacy that they acquire) before receiving formal reading and writing instruction in school; the description of those behaviours shown by toddlers and young children as they respond to and begin to approximate reading and writing acts (some examples include scribbling, pretending to 'read' a favourite book to mom or dad, following the words on a page with their finger while mom reads the book, pretending to talk on the phone, pretending to make a grocery list)

Word	Definition
Emotional Intelligence (E.Q)	Emotional intelligence includes personality independence, temper, self esteem, etc. E.Q is hard-wired before birth and has an influence on learning
Encoding	Using patterning to put a message into ones brain
Environmental Print	The signs, symbols, letters and numbers that surround us in our external environment
Evaluation	Learning progress or gains from intervention or training in 3 areas of knowledge, skills, attitudes or abilities; the key question is "What has changed?"
Facilitator	One who tries to elicit responses from a group and has participants of the group do most of the talking
Family Literacy	Family literacy is an emerging field in family support that focuses on preventing intergenerational transmission of low literacy skills from parents to their children; it targets the whole family rather than just one individual
Hand over Hand	Having the parents grasp the child's hand and guide their hand to accomplish a skill. e.g. using scissors to cut an object
Intelligence Quotient	IQ is a score that a child is given after doing a series of tests
Holistic	Refers to a philosophy that is inclusive of all influencing factors. Holistic literacy considers socio-economics, health, culture, physiology, etc
Labelling	A descriptive word or phrase applied to a person, group or theory; a generalized classification; using a term to describe someone (it is not necessarily a true description)
Learning Portfolio	Is a collection of child's or adult's work over time that shows learning
Learning Styles	There are three types of learning styles; Kinesthetic – learning through movement; Auditory – learning through sound and listening; Visual – learning through seeing
Literacy	It is the ability to communicate in any way that includes but is not limited to speaking, writing, editing, keyboarding (email), playing, etc. Literacy is not just about reading and writing
Literacies	There are various types of literacy that include bathtub literacy, media literacy, kitchen literacy, health literacy, computer literacy, functional literacy, and financial literacy to name a few
Math Strands	The Ontario Math Curriculum has 5 math strands: data management and probability, algebra and patterning, geometry and special sense, measurement, and number sense and numeration. All math is classified into these strands and is used from grade 1 – 12
Mirroring	Having your child mimic your exact words or movements
Modelling	Showing or shaping your child's behaviour by example; usually parents model behaviours they want to encourage

Word	Definition
Multiple Intelligences	A theory developed by Howard Gardner that explains that each individual has a number of natural skills that leads one to ask "How are you smart?" ; the nine intelligences include: Linguistic intelligence, Logical-mathematical intelligence, Musical intelligence, Bodily-kinesthetic intelligence, Spatial intelligence, Interpersonal intelligence, Intrapersonal intelligence, Naturalist intelligence, Existential intelligence (Existential intelligence is not confirmed by Gardner, but suggested)
Multi-sensory learning	Using more than one sense to help with learning a skill. The five senses are hearing, taste, touch, smell, and seeing
Outcomes	These are the results or consequences; In Get Set Learn , the three major categories of outcomes are: K – knowledge, S – skills, A – attitudes; outcomes show that learning has occurred because of participation in the program
OW	Ontario Works clients who are unemployed and receiving Social Assistance
PACT	Parent and Child Together time which is the portion of the Get Set Learn program where the participants (both children and adults) learn together and have time to practice new strategies
Pedagogy	The art and science of how children learn
Phoneme	The smallest unit of sound in the English language. English has 42 different phonemes
Phonemic Awareness	Is an understanding that speech consists of a series of small sound parts
Phonological Awareness	Phonological awareness is often confused with "phonics" but it is really a precursor to phonics. Phonological awareness is the ability to be able to hear and distinguish the different parts of words such as syllables and phonemes. Children develop phonological awareness through verbal communication. Songs and nursery rhymes are particularly good tools for developing this auditory skill
Phonological Sensitivity	This is the awareness that the phonemes have different sounds
Pre-literacy	The time before a child or an adult learner begins to learn to read; pre-literacy skills are the foundation of the skills required for reading
Reinforcement	Repetition of tasks and skills with the purpose of making them innate
Running commentary	A verbal description of an action in progress

Word	Definition
Scaffolding	The creation of a rough framework of prior knowledge, within and on top of which, new knowledge can be built; Scaffolding instruction is a way for facilitators and parents to provide support mechanisms to allow children to handle complex tasks, with the eventual goal of child's independence
Self Talk	The talk that a person does to oneself. This talk can be negative or positive and through Get Set Learn , we hope to incorporate positive self talk in the parents and children as a builder of self-esteem
Semantic Memory	Remembering things written or spoken
Stream of Consciousness	Verbalizing or writing down thoughts and feelings as they occur
Story Stretcher	An activity that will add to the comprehension of and fun of a story being read (for example, having families hold matching coloured paper when reading "Brown Bear, Brown Bear")
Syntax	How words are arranged in sentences according to the rules of grammar
Teacher	One who lectures and shares knowledge

