Five Ways That Children Learn

1. **Talking** with children is important. It helps them learn:
   - New words and sounds.
   - About the world around them.
   - How to have conversation with adults and other children.
   - About their history and culture.
   - About new ideas and how to make connections between ideas.

2. **Reading** to children is important:
   - It enhances children’s listening skills and language development.
   - It provides opportunities to learn new vocabulary words and concepts.
   - It helps children learn to love books and encourages them to become life-long learners.

3. **Writing** with children is important:
   - Writing and reading support each other.
   - Children learn the connection between letters, sounds, and words by hearing them, seeing them and writing them.

4. **Singing** with children is important:
   - Singing sends endorphins flowing to the brain. This causes the body to feel good and increases the brain’s activity.
   - It helps children:
     - Concentrate on a task.
     - Learn sounds and words.
     - Remember words and concepts.
     - Develop their imaginations and creativity.

5. **Playing** with children is important:
   - Play helps children understand how the world works.
   - Children gain literacy skills through play; especially when they play with books, letter blocks, and writing materials.
   - Imaginary and dramatic play help children learn about themselves and the world around them.
   - Children incorporate the skills and knowledge gained during play into their everyday lives.

Gowa: Teachable Moments for Apache Children
This program provides free early literacy materials, activities, and events to San Carlos Apache families with children ages 0 – 6.

Learn more: [https://extension.arizona.edu/gowa](https://extension.arizona.edu/gowa) or email GowaTeachableMoments@arizona.edu