APRIL 2021

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 WRITING Write your child a small note. Leave it where they will find it. Read it to them with excitement and expression.	**2 PLAYING** Play a questioning game. *Ask your child, "Where are your toes?"; "Where is your nose?"; "Where are your ears?"*	**3 TALKING** Talk about Spring and how it is one of the four seasons. *What will happen in Spring? What comes after Spring?*
4 SINGING Sing a song in a high voice; sing it in a low voice. Sing it slow; sing it fast.	**5 COUNTING** Find two items that are similar but different sizes. Talk about big and little.	**6 READING** Visit the library (in-person or online) and check out books about Spring.	**7 WRITING** Help your child experiment with writing using pencils, crayons, markers, and chalk on different types of paper and cardboard.	**8 PLAYING** Play follow the leader. One person (the leader) performs actions the others must follow. Take turns being the leader.	**9 TALKING** Say a favorite nursery rhyme, change an important word to something silly. *Hickory-Dickory Dock, the mouse ran up the tree…*	**10 SINGING** Has it been raining a lot? Sing, "Rain, Rain, Go Away." *(Words are on the back.)*
11 COUNTING Cut a piece of toast in half. Say, "Now we have two pieces the same size."	**12 READING** Teach letter sounds by playing "I Spy." *"I spy with my little eye something that begins with S. Yes! A shoe!"*	**13 WRITING** Cut a letter of the alphabet out of cardboard. Put the letter under a piece of paper. Have your child color over the letter and watch the letter beneath appear.	**14 PLAYING** Play the letter day game. Find things all day that start with the first letter of your child's first name.	**15 TALKING** Use new describing words today. *Say "enormous" instead of "big." "Wonderful" instead of "great"*	**16 SINGING** Sing "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" during bath time.	**17 COUNTING** Count to 5 as you spin in a circle five times. Count 5 hops. Count five small steps. Count five big steps.
18 READING Get caught reading a book. Show your child reading is important to you too.	**19 WRITING** Make a dot painting with cotton swabs to help develop fine motor skills.	**20 PLAYING** Cut out large shapes—a square, a rectangle, a triangle, a circle. Place them on the floor. Take turns telling which shapes to step on.	**21 TALKING** Choose a word of the day. Write the word down together. Use the word several times during the course of the day.	**22 SINGING** Make up a song about something that is familiar or interesting to your child.	**23 COUNTING** Place several objects on a table. Ask which is largest, which is heaviest, which is smallest.	**24 READING** Write a few letters down on different pieces of paper. Place them around the room. Help your child find them.
25 WRITING Create a writing box together. Include paper and crayons. Decorate the outside and leave it within easy reach of your child.	**26 PLAYING** Make a tent with sheets and furniture. Pretend you are camping. What do you see? What do you hear?	**27 TALKING** Say a favorite rhyme but leave off the last word. Have your child finish the sentence	**28 SINGING** Sing "I Hear Thunder." *(Words are on the back.)*	**29 COUNTING** Sort blocks by color. Count how many there are of each color.	**30 READING** Ask interactive questions while reading together. Where is the dog? Where is the cat?	

Talking is one of the best ways for children to learn new words.

Speak to your child often during the day and try to use many different words to express your ideas. Children love to imitate, and they will try to imitate your speech. Chances to chat include while you are getting dressed in the morning, eating breakfast, riding in the car, walking from the car to a store, playing together, doing chores, taking a bath, going to bed, and while saying goodnight. Ask lots of open-ended questions, those that require more than a yes or no answer.

RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY

Rain, Rain,

Go away;

Come again,

Another day;

Little [child's name] wants to play

I HEAR THUNDER

Sing to the tune "Frère Jacques"

I hear thunder, I hear thunder.
(Pound hands gently on floor or lap)

Listen, don't you? Listen, don't you?
(Cup hand to ear)

Pitter, patter raindrops; pitter, patter raindrops;
(Wiggle fingers in falling motion in front of face)

I'm wet through,
(Shake body)

So are you!
(Tickle your child)

Books to Read this Month

Check out these books at the library. If they are not available, ask the librarian for a recommendation.

FOR READERS AGES 0-3

Weather
by Jill McDonald

Dream Big, Little One
by Vashti Harrison

FOR READERS AGES 3+

Cat & Mouse
by Britta Teckentrup

Bear Came Along
by Richard T. Morris