

APRIL 2020

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1 WRITING

Write letters in the steam that forms on windows, the dust on your car, or the sand at the park.

2 PLAYING

Play a questioning game. Ask your child where are your toes, where is your nose, etc.

3 TALKING

Say silly rhymes to make your child laugh.



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

Come to the library and check out books about spring.



7 WRITING

Write letters in shaving cream in the bathtub or shower.



8 PLAYING

Have an inside picnic with a teddy bear and other toys.



9 TALKING

Say a favorite rhyme, leave off the last word, and have your child finish the sentence.

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 B. Yes, a banana!

13 WRITING

Cut a letter of the alphabet out of cardboard and place it 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 children'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 5 small steps and 5 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

Pretend to talk on the phone while holding a block to your ear.

21 TALKING

This is National Library Week. Talk about fun things to do at the library.

22 SINGING

Make music with everyday items like pots, pans, and spoons.

23 COUNTING

Count the pages in your child's favorite board book.



24 READING

Go to the library and check out books for you and for your child.

25 WRITING

Keep paper and writing materials where your child will have easy access to them.

26 PLAYING

Make a tent with sheets and furniture. Pretend you are camping. What do you hear? What do you see?

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

Go to the library and check out a picture book about spring.



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

¡Lluvia!/ Rain!

by Linda Ashman
(Text is in English and Spanish)

The Pout-Pout Fish

by Deborah Diesen

FOR READERS AGES 3+

Hooray for Birds!

by Lucy Cousins

Press Here

by Hervé Tullet



MAY 2020

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1 WRITING

Letters are everywhere. Draw your child's name and talk about each one, naming other words that also begin with the letters.

2 PLAYING

Go on an outside scavenger hunt. Bring a list and check off the things you see.

3 TALKING

Say as many words as you can that rhyme with "May."



4 SINGING

Use a homemade shaker and shake it to the beat of songs.

5 COUNTING

Go for a walk. Take two big steps. Take three large steps. Count how many steps from your door to the sidewalk.

6 READING

Read a book about mothers. The library can help you find one.



7 WRITING

Make a Mother's Day card and have your child sign his or her name.



8 PLAYING

Play "Riddle Me."
I'm big, yellow, and hot. Yes! I am the sun!



9 TALKING

Talk about feelings you felt today. What made you laugh?

10 SINGING

Sing "The Farmer Plants the Seeds." (*Words are on the back. ➡*)

11 COUNTING

Recite the Nursery Rhyme "Five Little Ducks." (*Words are on the back. ➡*)



12 READING

Draw out a story on 4-5 small pieces of paper. Help your child put the papers in proper sequence to tell the story.

13 WRITING

Playing with play dough strengthens muscles needed for writing. Roll dough into balls, press fingers into the dough, and make shapes.

14 PLAYING

Play a rhyming game, where you choose a word and then come up with as many rhyming words as you can. Dog, frog, hog, log.

15 TALKING

Look for signs of spring. Go for a walk and talk about what you see. Point out new grass, birds, first flowers, leaf buds.

16 SINGING

Sing a favorite song. Sing it fast, sing it slow.



17 COUNTING

Ask questions about what is heavier. Does an orange or a grape weigh more? Is Mom's jacket or your jacket heavier?

18 READING

Look into your library's summer reading program.

19 WRITING

Draw a large alphabet. Have your child practice tracing or coloring the letters while you say the letters out loud.

20 PLAYING

Go on an outside scavenger hunt. Look for shapes. How many different shapes can you find?

21 TALKING

Today is Thursday. Talk about the days of the week. What does your family do on each day?

22 SINGING

Play children's songs. Sing and dance together.

23 COUNTING

Draw squares, circles, and triangles on the sidewalk with chalk. Count how many there are of each shape.

24 READING

Read books about Spring.

25 WRITING

Help your child begin to recognize words for a few common objects by putting labels on them (shoe, chair, door, etc.)

26 PLAYING

Have a music parade with different instruments. Pretend to play the tuba, the drums, etc.

27 TALKING

When you are reading a new book stop before you get to the end and ask your child what he or she thinks will happen next.

28 SINGING

Sing the Alphabet song. Take turns singing parts of it.
You: ABCDEFG Child: HIJKLMN OP
You: QRS Child: TUV You: WX
Child: Y and Z + ending.

29 COUNTING

Count the number of eggs in a carton. Explain that 12 items together is also called a dozen.

30 READING

Take pictures your child has drawn, staple or bind them together, and ask your child to tell you a story about the pictures.

31 WRITING

Practice drawing shapes and letters in a tray of rice.

Good readers have a large vocabulary.

Knowing lots of words helps children better understand what they read. You can help your children learn lots of words by:

- Having plenty of conversations. Take turns talking. It is important for you to ask questions and listen to what your children say in response.
- Read together! A lot!
- Make connections. Connect what you are reading in books to their lives. "Yes, Grandma has a black cat, too."
- Repetition. Children often love to read the same book over and over. This is a good thing as repeated readings help build vocabulary.



FIVE LITTLE DUCKS

Five little ducks
Went out one day
Over the hills and
far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack,
quack, quack"
But only four little
ducks came back.

Three little ducks
Went out one day
Over the hills and
far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack,
quack, quack."
But only two little
ducks came back.

One little duck
Went out one day
Over the hills and
far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack,
quack, quack."
But none of the five
little ducks came
back.

Four little ducks
Went out one day
Over the hills and
far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack,
quack, quack."
But only three little
ducks came back.

Two little ducks
Went out one day
Over the hills and
far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack,
quack, quack."
But only one little
duck came back.

Sad mother duck
Went out one day
Over the hills and
far away
The sad mother
duck said
"Quack, quack,
quack, quack."
And all of the five
little ducks came
back.

THE FARMER PLANTS THE SEEDS

*Sing to the tune
"The Farmer in the Dell"*

The Farmer plants the seeds,
The Farmer plants the seeds,
(Pretend to plant seeds)

Hi, ho, the dairy-o,

The farmer plants the seeds.

The sun comes out to shine...
(Make large circle with arms)

The rain begins to fall...
(Hands flutter up and down)

The seeds begin to grow...
(Stand up tall)

The farmer picks the crops...
(Pretend to pick crops)

We all sit down to eat...
(Pretend to eat)

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

Who? A Celebration of Babies

by Robie Harris

Lola Plants a Garden

by Anna McQuinn

FOR READERS AGES 3+

Planting a Rainbow

by Lois Ehlert

Alma and How She Got Her Name

by Juana Martinez-Neal



JUNE 2020

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.

SUNDAY



MONDAY

1 WRITING

Draw outside with sidewalk chalk. Draw letters and shapes.



TUESDAY

2 PLAYING

Make bubbles outside. Talk about the bubbles. What shape are they? Which way will they go? Can you catch one?

WEDNESDAY

3 TALKING

Pick out a family snapshot or a random picture. Ask your child to tell you about the picture.

THURSDAY

4 SINGING

Sing "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes." (*Words are on the back.* ➡)

FRIDAY

5 COUNTING

Measure your child's height and write it here _____. Compare to January's measurement.

SATURDAY

6 READING

Make a paper bag puppet. Have the puppet read a book.

7 WRITING

Draw the outline of your child's hand. Write the date and have your child "sign" the drawing.

8 PLAYING

Play the letter day game. Look for words that begin with "S" like summer.

9 TALKING

Talk about summer. What are your favorite things to do in the summer? How are summer and winter different?

10 SINGING

Sing a favorite song. Then sing it again but make up new words.

11 COUNTING

Weigh your child and write it here _____. How does it compare to January?

12 READING

Read a book about flowers and plants.



13 WRITING

In the morning write today's to-do list. Check things off as you do them.

14 PLAYING

Play Leap Frog with stuffed animals. Explain why the game is called Leap Frog.

15 TALKING

Talk about colors. What is your favorite color and why? Find your favorite color as many times as you can today.

16 SINGING

Sing BINGO. (*Words are on the back.* ➡)



17 COUNTING

Go for a walk. Pick something and count how many you see. (Cars, trees, flowers, clouds, birds, squirrels, etc.).

18 READING

Go to the library and pick out a book about summer.

19 WRITING

Make a word jar. Each day write a new word on a slip of paper and add it to the jar. (Use any container—doesn't have to be a jar).

20 PLAYING

Sit on cushions on the floor and pretend to be in a boat. Sing "Row, Row, Your Boat." (*Words are on the back.* ➡)

21 TALKING

Ask W questions after reading a book. (Who, What, Where, When, Why).

Who is your favorite animal on this page? What will happen next?

22 SINGING

Make up a song using words that rhyme with dog.

23 COUNTING

Count the number of kisses you give your child today.



24 READING

Look at a magazine together. Explain some of the pictures or illustrations.

25 WRITING

Help your child draw a simple story with a picture for beginning, middle, and end.

26 PLAYING

Play "Simon Says" outside.



27 TALKING

Talk about food. What do you like to eat?



28 SINGING

Recite a classic nursery rhyme like The Cow Jumped Over the Moon. (*Words are on the back.* ➡)

29 COUNTING

Sort items from your grocery bag. These things go in the pantry. These go in the refrigerator? How many go in the freezer?

30 READING

While reading with your child run your finger under each word. This will help them understand left to right/top to bottom reading.



One way children learn vocabulary is from listening to stories.

They listen to understand what is being said, which helps them learn new words. Stories aren't just found in books. You can tell stories about your day, your memories from growing up, or something about your child's life. You can also use wordless picture books and make up a story together. With wordless books, you can develop imagination along with language and vocabulary skills. Make it fun! Having fun with words helps your child become more aware of words and eager to learn more.

B-I-N-G-O

There was a farmer who had a
dog and Bingo was his name-oh.

B-I-N-G-O,

B-I-N-G-O

B-I-N-G-O

and Bingo was his name-oh.

There was a farmer who had a
dog and Bingo was his name-oh.

(clap)-I-N-G-O,

(clap)-I-N-G-O

(clap)-I-N-G-O

and Bingo was his name-oh.

There was a farmer who had a
dog and Bingo was his name-oh.

(clap)-(clap)-N-G-O

(clap)-(clap) N-G-O

(clap)-(clap) N-G-O

and Bingo was his name-oh.

CONTINUE UNTIL ALL THE LETTERS IN
BINGO'S NAME ARE REPLACED WITH CLAPS.

HEY DIDDLE DIDDLE

Hey Diddle Diddle

The Cat and the Fiddle

The Cow Jumped Over the Moon

The Little Dog Laughed

To See Such Sport

And the Dish Ran Away with the Spoon

ROW YOUR BOAT

Row, Row, Row, Your Boat

Gently Down the Stream

Merrily, Merrily, Merrily, Merrily

Life is But a Dream



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

Higher, Higher

by Leslie Patricelli

At the Beach/Vamos a la Playa

by Mandy Stanley

(Text is in English and Spanish)

FOR READERS AGES 3+

Frida Kahlo and Her Animalitos

by Monica Brown

Dreamers

by Yuyi Morales

