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Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.

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Little Sprouts Myrna Chelko Literacy Initiative
PublicLibrary ASSOCIATION
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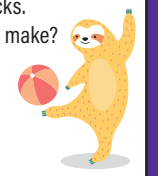
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 WRITING Use building toys like LEGO or wooden blocks to form letters of the alphabet.
2 PLAYING Pretend Library. Set up a small library and a checkout table. Take turns checking out books.	**3 TALKING** Talk about bigger and smaller. *What is bigger, a giraffe or an ant? A house or a cat?* 	**4 SINGING** Make music with things you have in the house like pots, pans, spoons, boxes, and cups.	**5 COUNTING** Talk about time. How long does it take to get to the park? How long does it take to get to the library?	**6 READING** Read a nonfiction book about birds. Talk about what you've learned. Say the rhyme "If I Were a Bird." *(Words are on the back.)*	**7 WRITING** Label the things in your child's room. Bed, dresser, table, book, closet. Point to the words and discuss.	**8 PLAYING** Play with blocks. What can you make? Form the blocks into a letter shape. 
9 TALKING Take an alphabet walk outside. Talk about things that begin with different letter sounds.	**10 SINGING** Sing or say "The Itsy Bitsy Spider." *(Words are on the back.)* 	**11 COUNTING** Go on a nature walk and count items you find, such as leaves, rocks, or flowers. 	**12 READING** Look at pictures in magazines or newspapers. Take turns telling stories about the pictures.	**13 WRITING** Draw a picture for a grandparent or other important person. Be sure to "sign" it.	**14 PLAYING** Play "What Fits?" Will the car fit inside your shoe? Will your shoe fit inside the car?	**15 TALKING** Plan a visit to your local library. Talk with your child about everything the library offers (books, toys, games, programs, etc.).
16 SINGING Pick a new kind of music you haven't listened to before. Listen together. Discuss.	**17 COUNTING** Set the table for a meal. How many plates will you need? How many utensils? Napkins?	**18 READING** Hide a small toy. Draw a simple map with X marking the spot and follow the map together. 	**19 WRITING** Use play dough to shape your child's first name. 	**20 PLAYING** Play the yes-no game about time. *Is it time for breakfast? Is it time to read? Is it time for kisses?*	**21 TALKING** Before going to bed, talk about things you did this morning, this afternoon, and tonight. What will you do tomorrow?	**22 SINGING** Sing a "good morning" song to greet your child in the morning.
23 COUNTING Put the family's shoes in order from biggest to smallest.	**24 READING** Choose a picture book and read it together.	**25 WRITING** Write your child's first name. Talk about the first letter of their name. Make the sound and say words that begin with the letter.	**26 PLAYING** Sing "Scarecrow, Scarecrow" and do all the movements. *(Words are on the back.)*	**27 TALKING** Offer choices today. *Do you want this book or that one? Do you want water or milk? Would you like a banana or strawberries?*	**28 SINGING** Take turns singing bits of favorite songs.	**29 COUNTING** Create a picture graph with two meal options. Have each family member vote for their preferred choice, and then tally the votes together with your child.
30 READING Go to the library and check out a new book.	**31 WRITING** Create letters with playdough to improve fine motor skills.					

Children's reading success in kindergarten and beyond begins with positive language and literacy experiences from the time they are infants.

- Young children have shorter attention spans. You can do activities for short bits of time throughout the day or whenever you have the chance.
- You can help your children learn in ways and at times that are best for them.
- Children learn best by doing—and they love doing things with YOU!

THE ITSY BITSY SPIDER

The itsy bitsy spider went up the water spout.

(Move fingers up toward sky)

Down came the rain and washed the spider out.

(Bring fingers down and back)

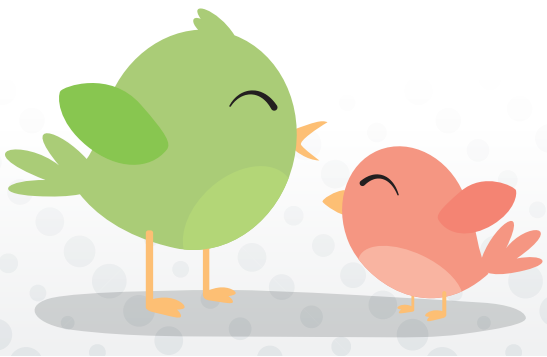
Out came the sun and dried up all the rain

(Move arms up over head)

And the itsy bitsy spider climbed up the spout again.

(Move fingers up toward sky)

REPEAT WITH "GREAT BIG SPIDER" USING A GRUFF, DEEP VOICE.



IF I WERE A BIRD

If I were a bird, I'd sing a song

And fly about the whole day long.

And when the night comes, go to rest,

Up in my cozy little nest.

SCARECROW, SCARECROW

Sing to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star"

Scarecrow, scarecrow, turn around,

Scarecrow, scarecrow, touch the ground.

Stand up tall and blink your eyes.

Raise your hands up to the sky.

Scarecrow, scarecrow, touch your toes.

Scarecrow, scarecrow, tap your nose.

Swing your arms so very slow,

Now real fast to scare the crows.

Raise your head, jump up and down.

Now sit down without a sound.

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

Up High
by Matt Hunt

Alma, Head to Toe/Alma, de pies a cabeza
by Juana Martinez Neal

FOR READERS AGES 3+

Bugs Everywhere
by Lily Murray

Dalmartian: A Mars Rover's Story
by Lucy Ruth Cummins