

Pre-Literacy Activities

August 2022

Help your child get ready to read and write with one fun and simple activity a day!

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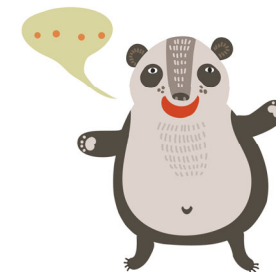
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Get pillow cases, climb inside, & do an indoor silly summer sack race!	2 Look around for things that start with "S" (for Sun, Sand, & Surf)!	3 Build a tower of blocks as high as you can until they fall over.	4 Use clay or play dough to make letters.	5 Learn how to say "Hello" in another language.	6 National Mustard Day! Go on a walk & look for things that are yellow .
7 Write the numbers 1-9. Spin around that number of times. Repeat!	8 VISIT SCCLD ONLINE! Check out our Events Calendar & attend a Storytime or program!	9 National Book Lovers Day! Ask people what their favorite book is, & why!	10 Explain a task to your child as you do it: folding laundry, washing dishes, or caring for pets.	11 Take "selfies" showing different emotions. Talk about the feelings you express in each photo.	12 Look for the first letter of your child's name in a book. Count how many times you see it.	13 Read a rhyming book & point out words that rhyme. Think of your own rhyming words!
14 Act out "puppet shows" about something that happened & something imaginary. Talk about the difference.	15 Write numbers in a tray of flour with your finger.	16 National Tell a Joke Day! Tell jokes to friends & family!	17 I LOVE My Feet Day! Trace your feet on a sheet of paper & color them.	18 Make an obstacle course with pillows, blankets, toys & other household items.	19 Sing the alphabet song. Jump each time you hear a letter in your name.	20 World Honey Bee Day! VISIT SCCLD ONLINE: Check out a book or eBook about bees. Ask us how!
21 While cleaning up toys, sort by color, shape, size or type.	22 Take turns hiding a stuffed animal & giving clues where to find it.	23 Face your child cross-legged. Hold hands. Alternate leaning forward & backward singing "Row, Row, Row Your Boat".	24 Find out what happens when you put paper in a bowl of water. Talk about it!	25 Find one thing in the kitchen that is each of these shapes: circle, square, triangle, oval, rectangle, star	26 National Dog Day! Read dog books & pretend to be one: <i>Widget; Bark, George; Dog's Colorful Day.</i>	27 Throw a pretend birthday party for a stuffed animal!
28 Say & touch each toe: <i>This Little Piggy went to market This little piggy stayed home This little piggy had roast beef This little piggy had none And this little piggy cried "Wee, wee, wee" all the way home!</i>	29 Dip a Q-tip in paint & write numbers or letters.	30 National Beach Day! Pretend you are at the beach. Lay out a towel, "swim" in the ocean, have a picnic lunch. Read about it!	31 National Trail Mix Day! Make some with what you have: raisins, nuts, seeds, granola, dried fruit, etc.			

If you completed the Summer Reading Program visit the library for a prize starting 8/1 (while supplies last).



Pre-Literacy Practices

Five ways to help your child get ready to read:



Singing



Sing every chance you get! Singing slows down language and helps children hear the smaller sounds in words. Songs expose children to words they don't hear in everyday language. This vocabulary boost helps them when they learn to read.



Reading

Curl up with a book at bedtime, or any time. Keep books everywhere: in the car, stroller, and bath tub. Role model the love of reading together. Most kids who have been read 1,000 books by the time they start Kindergarten are ready to learn to read.



Talking

Even newborns benefit from lots of talking! Tell stories, talk about the books you read, use new words, start conversations. Ask open-ended questions, giving children time to think and answer. Talking back and forth uses four parts of the brain; it takes young children extra time to form responses.

Playing



Play is the “work” of children. Pretend play builds vocabulary, stretches the imagination, and nurtures pre-reading skills. Symbolic play (This box is a car! A boat! A train!) is the same type of thinking that allows them to understand that a picture or the written word represents a real thing.

Writing



Play with a variety of writing tools. Color, draw, scribble, and write with crayons, chalk, or sticks in dirt or sand. Writing activities help children understand that writing and print has meaning. Developing fine motor skills prepares children for writing.

