








# Pre-Literacy Activities

# April 2024

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

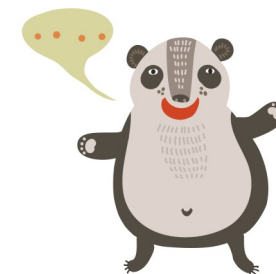
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p><b>Playing</b></p>	<p>1 <b>April Fools Day!</b> Read a "trickster tale," like an <i>Anansi the Spider</i> story, or <i>Jack &amp; the Beanstalk</i>.</p>	<p>2 Play rhyming "I Spy." "I spy with my little eye something that rhymes with mat." "Yes, the cat!"</p>	<p>3 <b>Find a Rainbow Day!</b> Draw a rainbow. Art is about process, not product. There is no "right" way to do art!</p>	<p>4 Look for things that start with "A" (for April)!</p>	<p>5 Explain what a symbol in a book means. Music note, quotation mark, word or thought bubbles, X's &amp; O's, etc.</p>	<p>6 <b>National Poetry Month!</b> <b>VISIT SCCLD ONLINE</b> &amp; request a poetry book at: <a href="https://scclld.org/">https://scclld.org/</a></p>
<p>7 Look at a wordless picture book. Ask your child to describe what is happening in the pictures.</p>	<p>8 <b>VISIT STORYTIME ONLINE</b> for stories, songs, fingerplays &amp; more at: <a href="https://scclld.org/storytime-online/">https://scclld.org/storytime-online/</a></p>	<p>9 Think of words that rhyme with the word "flower." They can be silly, nonsensical words, too!</p>	<p>10 Place nature items in a bag. Let your child close their eyes, reach in &amp; feel, &amp; guess what it is!</p>	<p>11 Shape play doh into flower shapes. Talk about the parts of a flower.</p>	<p>12 Count jelly beans or another type of candy or food.</p>	<p>13 Sing "<i>The Wheels on the Bus</i>," &amp; do the movements. Think of other things on the bus!</p>
<p>14 <b>National Gardening Day!</b> Plant a seed, work in a garden, draw or describe what you see in a garden.</p>	<p>15 Pick a color that shows how you are feeling. Draw with that color.</p>	<p>16 Color a coffee filter with markers. Spray with water. Watch the colors spread &amp; mix!</p>	<p>17 Find items from around the house. Talk about what is heavier &amp; what is lighter.</p>	<p>18 Clap the syllables in the word: "Po-e-try." Then try jumping or stomping them.</p>	<p>19 Make toy car ramps with items at your house (wood, paper towel tubes, pillows, etc.).</p>	<p>20 <b>VISIT SCCLD ONLINE!</b> Check out an eBook or Downloadable Audiobook, or request a Vox book.</p>
<p>21 Say a nursery rhyme together. Try <i>Hey Diddle Diddle</i>, <i>Humpty Dumpty</i>, or <i>Jack &amp; Jill</i>!</p>	<p>22 <b>Earth Day!</b> Go for a walk &amp; pick up litter.</p>	<p>23 <b>National Picnic Day!</b> Organize a real or pretend picnic.</p>	<p>24 Talk about what your different body parts do.</p>	<p>25 Play a favorite dice, card or board game. Make up a game!</p>	<p>26 Tell your favorite toy about something that happened to you today.</p>	<p>27 Sing <i>The Alphabet Song</i> every time you wash your hands.</p>
<p>28 <b>National Superhero Day!</b> If you could have any superpower, what would it be? Pretend you do!</p>	<p>29 <i>Action Rhyme:</i> Dig a little hole (dig) Plant a little seed (touch floor) Pour a little water (pour)  Pull a little weed (bend, pull) Chase a little bug (run) Heigh ho, there it goes! (hand over eyes) Give a little sunshine (circle with arms) Grow a little rose! (sniff it)</p>	<p>30 <b>Happy Día! (Children's Day/Book Day)</b> Read a diverse book, like <i>Book Fiesta!</i> By Pat Mora.</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Reading</b></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Writing</b></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Talking</b></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Singing</b></p> </div> </div>			

# 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.



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