

Pre-Literacy Activities

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







santa clara library

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
VISIT "STORYTIME ONLINE" for stories, songs, fingerplays & more: https://sccld.org/storytime- online/					1 National Authors Day! Talk about what authors do. Who wrote your favorite book? Tell a story!	Write an "N" (for November!) with dry spaghetti noodles, Q-tips, or craft sticks.
3 Make a music shaker. Staple two paper plates together with beans inside. Then boogie to a song!	4 Play "Simon Says."	5 Put objects into groups of 5 (toys, rocks, balls, crayons, etc.).	Pretend to be different animals! Move, eat, & sound like them.	7 Look around for things that are your favorite color.	8 Make up a song about your favorite food. Sing it to a familiar tune.	9 Tea Time! Host a tea party for your stuffed animals & family.
Bake something (real or pretend)! Discuss each step & talk about the recipe ingredients.	VISIT SCCLD ONLINE Request or check out a book or eBook about turkeys or Thanksgiving.	Look in the mirror & make different faces. Try: Happy, Sad, Silly, Surprised, Mad, Grumpy	13 World Kindness Day! Do or say something kind.	National Family PJ Day! The whole family can don their favorite PJs & have a dance or movie night.	Write the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5. Circle your child's age.	Trace your hand & turn it into a turkey by adding the beak, eyes, wattle, snood, feet.
17 Make a tightrope on the floor with tape. Walk across it. Try it with a bean bag on your head!	Pour sugar in a tray or cookie sheet & let your child write in the sugar with their finger.	19 National Play Monopoly Day! Play a board or card game together.	20 Make a list of family members. Talk about how they are related.	National Gingerbread Cookie Day! Share the Gingerbread Man story. Act it out!	Plan an indoor "parade." Decorate boxes for floats & march to music!	23 Make a bracelet or necklace with noodles or cereal strung on pipe cleaner or yarn.
24 Sing <i>The Itsy Bitsy Spider.</i> What other kinds of spiders can you sing about? Big? Hairy? Silly?	Draw a large letter on paper & use dried beans or pennies to "trace" the letter.	Act out a story with puppets or stuffed animals. Talk about the <i>characters</i> & setting.	27 Look around for things that start with "T" (for Turkey)!	28 Happy Thanksgiving! Write down what you are thankful for.	Use a clothespin or tongs to pick up small objects & drop them into a cup. Count them!	Puzzle fun! Cut a picture from a magazine into a few pieces & then put them back together.

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.





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.



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.



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.



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.

