






Pre-Literacy Activities

April 2025

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

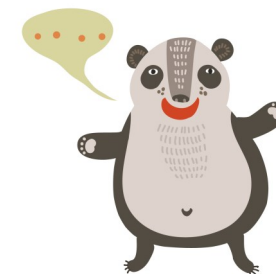
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>Playing</p>	 <p>Reading</p>	<p>1</p> <p>April Fools Day! Read a "trickster tale," like an <i>Anansi the Spider</i> story, or <i>Jack & the Beanstalk</i>.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>National Walking Day Go for a walk. Count all of the dogs or cats you see!</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Find a Rainbow Day Draw a rainbow! Art is about process, not product. There is no "right" way to do art!</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Explain a symbol in a book: a music note, quotation mark, word or thought bubble, X's & O's, etc.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Look for things that start with the letter "A" (for April!)</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Look at a wordless picture book. Ask your child to describe what is happening in the pictures.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>VISIT STORYTIME ONLINE for stories, songs, fingerplays & more, at: https://scclld.org/storytime-online/</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Think of words that rhyme with "flower." Include silly, non-sensical words!</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Place nature items in a bag. Close your eyes, reach in, & feel. Guess each mystery item.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Shape playdough into flowers. Talk about the different parts of a flower.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Count jelly beans, or another type of food.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Sing "<i>The Wheels on the Bus</i>," & do the movements. Make up other things on the bus!</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Make toy car ramps with items at your house, such as wood, paper towel tubes, pillows, etc.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>National Gardening Day Draw or describe what you see in a garden.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Color a coffee filter with markers. Spray with water. Watch the colors spread & mix!</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Talk about items around your house: what is heavier & what is lighter?</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Clap, jump or stomp the syllables in the word "Po-e-try."</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Pick a color that shows how you are feeling. Draw with that color.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>National Poetry Month VISIT SCCLD ONLINE & request a poetry book at: https://scclld.org/</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Say a nursery rhyme together, like <i>Hey Diddle Diddle</i>, <i>Humpty Dumpty</i>, or <i>Jack & Jill</i>.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Talk about what body parts do.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Earth Day Go for a walk & pick up litter.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>National Picnic Day Plan a picnic. It can be real or pretend!</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Play a dice, card or board game. Make one up!</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Tell your favorite toy about something that happened to you today.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Sing <i>The Alphabet Song</i> when you wash your hands.</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Play rhyming "I Spy." "I spy with my little eye something that rhymes with mat." "Yes, the cat!"</p>	<p>28</p> <p>National Superhero Day If you could have any superpower, what would it be? Now, pretend you do!</p>	<p>29</p> <p><i>Action Rhyme:</i> Dig a little hole (<i>dig</i>) Plant a little seed (<i>touch floor</i>) Pour a little water (<i>pour</i>) Pull a little weed (<i>bend, pull</i>) Chase a little bug (<i>run</i>) Heigh ho, there it goes! (<i>wave</i>) Give a little sunshine (<i>circle</i>) Grow a little rose! (<i>sniff it</i>)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Happy Día! Children's Day/Book Day Read a diverse book, like <i>Book Fiesta!</i> By Pat Mora.</p>	 <p>Writing</p>	 <p>Talking</p>	 <p>Singing</p>

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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