

JULY 2020

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.



GROSSE
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LIBRARY

313-640-GPPL

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

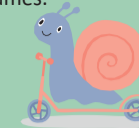


1 WRITING

Plan a picnic. Write a list of things you will need to bring.

2 PLAYING

Go on a picnic. Play fun outdoor games.



3 TALKING

Talk about today's weather. What should you wear?



4 SINGING

Sing a song with movement, like "The Wheels on the Bus." (Words are on the back. ➡)

5 COUNTING

Have your child help cook with a recipe.

We will need six eggs. One cup of flour, etc.

6 READING

Look at the cover of a book before reading it. Point out the book's title.

The name of this book is...

7 WRITING

Write a message and tuck it in your child's shoe. Read it together when your child finds it.

8 PLAYING

Play "Follow the Leader." Do three things (reach up high, touch your toes, take a big step) and ask your child to do the same things.

9 TALKING

Use a fruit or vegetable your child hasn't seen before. Talk about how it looks, feels, smells, tastes.

10 SINGING

Play music with a fast tempo as you pick up and put away toys.



11 COUNTING

Compare amounts.

You have more pieces of apple than I do.

12 READING

Vary your voice as you read. Use different expressions to help your child learn about feelings.

13 WRITING

Write a message outside with chalk.



14 PLAYING

Play the letter day game. Look for things that begin with the first letter of your child's name.

15 TALKING

Take a walk outside. Talk about all you see. Point out and name things.

16 SINGING

Play "Freeze." Play music and when you turn it off everyone has to stop in place until the music starts again.

17 COUNTING

Use a piece of string to measure things. What is longer? What is shorter?

18 READING

After reading a book talk about your favorite part.



19 WRITING

Help your child draw a picture of a summer activity. Have your child 'sign' the picture.

20 PLAYING

Play "I Spy" outside.

I spy something that has three wheels and is pink. Yes! Your bike.

21 TALKING

At bedtime talk about where animals sleep at night.

22 SINGING

Make a shaker by putting dried pasta or beans in an empty container. Shake it while you march and sing.

23 COUNTING

Count how many birds you see today.



24 READING

Print is everywhere. Point out words wherever you go today.

25 WRITING

Ask your child to dictate a letter to a special person. Show how to address an envelope and add a stamp. Then mail the letter together.

26 PLAYING

Play 'Riddle Me.'

I'm smaller than your hand, I'm purple, and I'm in the kitchen. What am I? Yes! A grape.

27 TALKING

Talk about things you do in the morning, things you do in the afternoon, and things you do in the night.

28 SINGING

Play 'Echo Me.' Clap, stomp, or beat a drum, and have your child repeat the noise.

29 COUNTING

Create a grocery list with your child. Look at what you have and what you need to purchase.

30 READING

Ask your child to pick out their favorite book to read today. Ask them why it is their favorite.

31 WRITING

Help your child experiment with writing using crayons, pencils, markers, and chalk on a variety of papers or cardboard.



You are your child's first teacher, and your home is where your child begins to learn.

Make your home a great place to learn. It doesn't take money to create special places where you and your child can talk, sing, read, write, play, and count. Here are a few ideas.

PLACES TO READ

Create a special space for your children to look at books. Have a comfortable chair or pillows and a small shelf or basket for favorite books. Make sure there's room for you and your child to sit together and that your child can reach books without needing help.

PLACES TO WRITE

Make it easy for your child to write throughout the day. Set up a space where your child can go on his or her own and use writing materials. Provide pencils, crayons, or markers of different sizes so your child can write with what is most comfortable. Use unlined paper.

PLACES TO PLAY

Play requires a little space, simple props, and some imagination and encouragement. You don't need special toys or expensive electronics. Provide props like large boxes, old clothes or costumes for dress up, empty food containers, and empty paper towel rolls. Play comes naturally to young children and is one of the primary ways they learn. Provide plenty of opportunities for your child to play.

WHEELS ON THE BUS

The wheels on the bus go round and round,
Round and round, round and round.
The wheels on the bus go round and round,
All around the town.
The wipers on the bus go swish, swish, swish...
The driver on the bus says "move on back" ...
The people on the bus go up and down...
The babies on the bus go "wah, wah, wah" ...
The parents on the bus go "shh, shh, shh" ...

ADAPTATION: THE HORSE ON THE FARM GOES " NEIGH, NEIGH, NEIGH"; COW, LAMB, PIG, ETC.



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

Barnyard Dance!

by Sandra Boynton

The Very Busy Spider

by Eric Carle

FOR READERS AGES 3+

Island Born

by Junot Díaz

Walter's Wonderful Web: A First Book About Shapes

by Tim Hopgood



AUGUST 2020

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.



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SUNDAY

MONDAY

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THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1 WRITING

Sit outside and write a list of seven things you see.



2 PLAYING

Paint on the sidewalk with water. Watch it evaporate.



3 TALKING

Make this "same and different" day.

How are our socks the same and different? They go on our feet and they are different colors.

4 SINGING

Make music with things you have in the house, like pots, pans, spoons, boxes, and cups.

5 COUNTING

Sort toys by size. Count the number of toys in each group.

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 as you put things away.

8 PLAYING

Play with blocks. What can you make? Form the blocks into letter shapes.

9 TALKING

Take an alphabet walk outside. Talk about things that begin with different letter sounds.

10 SINGING

Sing a bedtime story. Encourage your child to sing with you.

11 COUNTING

Put five stuffed animals in order from smallest to largest.



12 READING

Have a family story time. Each person picks a book to read aloud.



13 WRITING

Draw a picture for a grandparent or other very important person.

14 PLAYING

Play "What Fits?"

Will your hat fit under your bed? Will the refrigerator fit in your pocket?

15 TALKING

It's Library Card Month. Talk about what you can do at the library.



16 SINGING

Pick a new kind of music you haven't listened to before. Listen together.

17 COUNTING

Set the table for a meal. How many plates will you need? How many utensils? Napkins?

18 READING

Go to the library for a new book you haven't read before. The librarian can help you find one.

19 WRITING

Write the names of each family member with chalk on the sidewalk. Stand on your 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.

22 SINGING

Sing a 'good morning' song to greet your child in the morning.



23 COUNTING

Count the trees you see today.

24 READING

Point out signs everywhere.

25 WRITING

Use chalk to draw shapes on the sidewalk. Draw a triangle, a square, a circle, and a rectangle. Talk about how they are different.

26 PLAYING

Pretend you are in a boat on the water. Ask your child what kind of fish they see.

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

Sing "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes." (Words are on the back.)

29 COUNTING

Trace around your hand and around your child's hand. Talk about the difference in size.

30 READING

Go to the library and check out a new book.

31 WRITING

Use play dough to shape your child's first name.

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.
- Parents are tremendous role models—if your children see that you think reading is important and enjoy it, they will follow your lead.
- Children learn best by doing—and they love doing things with YOU!

HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES

Touch each body part as you sing

Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes

Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes

And eyes and ears and mouth and nose,

Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes

Neck, elbows, hips and feet, hips and feet

Neck, elbows, hips and feet, hips and feet

And thighs and rears and lips and teeth,

Neck, elbows, lips and teeth, lips and teeth.

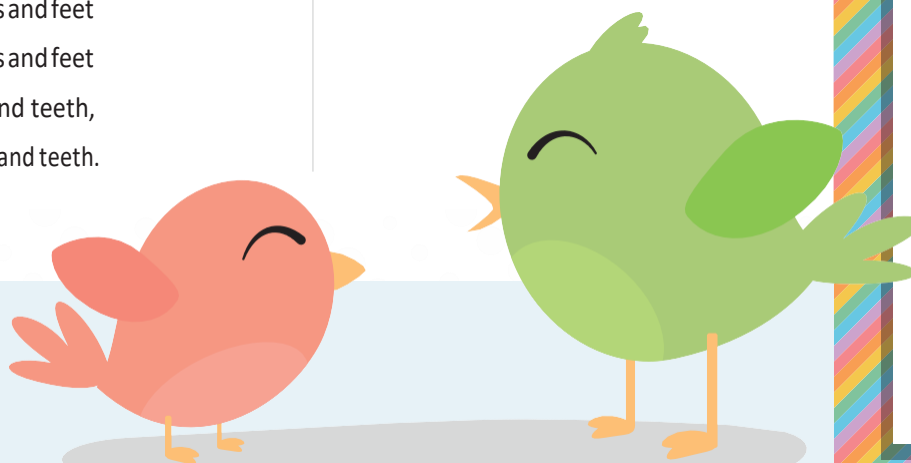
IF I WERE A BIRD

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.



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

Birds

by Jill McDonald

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?

by Eric Carle

FOR READERS AGES 3+

Birds

by Kevin Henkes

Saturday

by Oge Mora



SEPTEMBER 2020

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.



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THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1 WRITING

Have fun scribbling today! Use different kinds of paper and different pens, markers, crayons, etc.

2 PLAYING

Blow bubbles—this strengthens muscles needed for speech.

3 TALKING

As you tell a story, use new words and explain what they mean.

4 SINGING

Clap your hands to the beat of a favorite song.



5 COUNTING

Lace Cheerios onto a piece of yarn and then count them.

6 READING

Read a book or find information about insects that are active in late summer, like crickets or cicadas. Talk about how you can hear them at night.

7 WRITING

Write your to-do list together. Have your child check off each as it is completed.

8 PLAYING

Play alphabet search today. Take turns picking a letter and searching for it.



9 TALKING

Talk about something your child hasn't experienced and explain what happens.

10 SINGING

How many ways can you move to the music? Play a favorite song and clap, march, spin, and tap.

11 COUNTING

Count how many red cars you see today. Tally up at the end of the day.

12 READING

Have a friends book club. Each friend brings a book for a story time.



13 WRITING

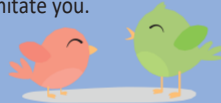
Pop bubble wrap or play with squirt toys to develop muscles needed for writing.

14 PLAYING

Tape a sheet of contact paper to the wall, sticky side out. See which toys stick and which toys do not.

15 TALKING

Make silly sounds today. Encourage your child to imitate you.



16 SINGING

Sing "Now it's bath time, now it's bath time, yes, it is" to the tune of "Frère Jacques."

17 COUNTING

Take a walk and count how many birds or squirrels you see.



18 READING

Visit the library and help your child select books to check out.

19 WRITING

Use cooked pieces of spaghetti to make shapes and letters.



20 PLAYING

Go on a scavenger hunt today. Look for things that start with the 'p' sound, like a plate, a pan, and a pen.

21 TALKING

Use simple props to tell a story. Use silly voices for different characters.

22 SINGING

Recite a nursery rhyme like "Humpty Dumpty." (*Words are on the back.*)

23 COUNTING

Use blocks to measure how long something is. How many blocks long is your arm, your foot, etc.?

24 READING

Pick a child's favorite book. When you come to a favorite part encourage your child to "read" along with you.

25 WRITING

Work together to make a list of your child's favorite words.

26 PLAYING

Sing "Scarecrow, Scarecrow" to practice following directions. (*Words are on the back.*)

27 TALKING

Use family photos to tell different stories. Encourage your child to tell a story.

28 SINGING

Recite a nursery rhyme like "Hickory Dickory Dock." (*Words are on the back.*)

29 COUNTING

Time yourself. How long does it take to walk one block? Show your child the time at the beginning and at the end.

30 READING

Go to the library and check out a book on a topic your child is interested in. The librarian can help you find one.



Playing to Learn New Words

Play and have fun with words:

- Read a book with lots of made-up words like “How Do You Wokka-Wokka?” by Elizabeth Bluemle. Many books by Dr. Seuss also are excellent for this purpose. Try making up more words to go with the story.
- Silly poems are fun and can teach new vocabulary.
- Kids love riddles and jokes, which often use a “play on words.” Laugh along as you talk about the answer to the riddle or joke.
- Having fun with words helps your child become more conscious of words and happy to keep learning.



HUMPTY DUMPTY

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall.
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
All the king's horses and all the king's men
Could not put Humpty together again.

HICKORY DICKORY DOCK

Hickory Dickory Dock,
The mouse ran up the clock.
The clock struck one
And down he run.
Hickory Dickory Dock
Tick Tock!

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

Together

by Emma Dodd

Baby Goes to Market

by Atinuke

FOR READERS AGES 3+

Pinky Got Out

by Michael Portis

Whose Nose Do You Suppose

by Richard Turner



OCTOBER 2020

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.



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SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1 WRITING
Start a list of things to do this week. Talk about it and decide who will do each.

2 PLAYING
Cut out pictures of food from magazines. Let your child choose which to use and glue those onto a paper plate.

3 TALKING
Talk about the weather today and what you should wear outside.

4 SINGING
Sing "good morning to you" to the tune of Happy Birthday.
Good morning to you, good morning to you. Good morning to (child's name), good morning to you!

5 COUNTING
Count out a healthy snack.
One for you and one for me and one for Daddy. Two for you, two for me, and two for Daddy.

6 READING
Go to the library and take out a new book. Talk about new words you come across while reading the new book.

7 WRITING
Write a grocery list together. Go around checking what you need and add it to the list.

8 PLAYING
Take a walk outside. Collect colorful leaves. Try to find as many different types as possible.

9 TALKING
Expand on what your child says.
Yes, we saw a dog at the park. It was large and brown and wagging its tail.

10 SINGING
Take turns singing bits of the alphabet song.


11 COUNTING
Trace the hand of each person in your family. Whose hand is bigger? Whose is smaller?

12 READING
Try to spot letters on license plates today. How many can you see?

13 WRITING
Write your child's name in big letters. Talk about each letter.

14 PLAYING
Play "I Spy" with rhyming words.
I spy with my little eye something that rhymes with fall. What is it? Yes! A ball!

15 TALKING
Read a book together. Ask 'what' questions.
What is happening here? What do you think will happen next?

16 SINGING
Sing "Where is Thumbkin?" (*Words are on the back*)

17 COUNTING
Pick a point in your house or on your block. Count the steps to get there.

18 READING
Read a book about bears or other animals that hibernate over the winter. The library can help you find one.

19 WRITING
Use crayons or markers to write the names of colors. Use the red crayon to write the word red; the blue crayon to write the word blue; etc.


20 PLAYING
Take turns pretending to be animals.
What sound do you make? How do you move?

21 TALKING
Talk about foods that are orange.


22 SINGING
Sing "If You're Happy and You Know It" (*Words are on the back*)

23 COUNTING
Count the number of pumpkins you see today. Keep a tally.


24 READING
Read a book about fall. The library can help you find one.


25 WRITING
Write a list of words that rhyme with dog.


26 PLAYING
Play a rhyming riddle game.
What do you see that rhymes with bee? Yes, a tree!


27 TALKING
Smell different things and talk about them: spices, flowers, fruit, and cocoa. Which scents do you like or dislike?

28 SINGING
Dance to a fast song and then dance to a slow song. Clap along to both songs.

29 COUNTING
What three things would fit inside your pumpkin? What three things won't fit?

30 READING
Read a book about Halloween.

31 WRITING
Make a list of things you liked most about this month.

Parents are tremendous role models.

If your children see that you think reading is important and enjoy it, they will follow your lead. When you go to the library, check-out books for you and your children. Put your books somewhere at home where your child can see them. Let your children see you reading. Talk about what you've read, even if it is just to say, "That was a good book. I liked reading it."

THUMBKIN *Sing to the tune of "Frère Jacques"*

(Start with hands behind back.)

Where is Thumbkin? Where is Thumbkin?

Here I am. *(Bring right hand to front, with thumb up)*

Here I am. *(Bring left hand to front, with thumb up)*

How are you today friend?

Very well, I thank you. *(Wiggle thumbs as if they are talking to each other)*

Run away. *(Hide right hand behind back)*

Run away. *(Hide left hand behind back)*

Where is Pointer? Where is Pointer?

Here I am. *(Bring right hand to front, with index finger up)*

Here I am. *(Bring left hand to front, with index finger up)*

How are you today friend?

Very well, I thank you. *(Wiggle fingers as if they are talking to each other)*

Run away. *(Hide right hand behind back)*

Run away. *(Hide left hand behind back)*

Where is tall man? Where is tall man?

Here I am. *(Bring right hand to front, with third finger up)*

Here I am. *(Bring left hand to front, with third finger up)*

How are you today friend?

Very well, I thank you. *(Wiggle fingers as if they're talking to each other)*

Run away. *(Hide right hand behind back)*

Run away. *(Hide left hand behind back)*

Where is Ring Man? Where is Ring Man?

Here I am. *(Bring right hand to front, with ring finger up)*

Here I am. *(Bring left hand to front, with ring finger up)*

How are you today friend?

Very well, I thank you. *(Wiggle fingers as if they are talking to each other)*

Run away. *(Hide right hand behind back)*

Run away. *(Hide left hand behind back)*

Where is Pinkie? Where is Pinkie?

Here I am. *(Bring right hand to front, with little finger up)*

Here I am. *(Bring left hand to front, with little finger up)*

How are you today friend?

Very well, I thank you. *(Wiggle fingers as if they are talking to each other)*

Run away. *(Hide right hand behind back)*

Run away. *(Hide left hand behind back)*

Where are all the fingers? Where are all the fingers?

Here we are. *(Bring right hand to front with all the fingers showing)*

Here we are. *(Bring left hand to front with all the fingers showing)*

How are you today friends?

Very well we thank you. *(Wiggle fingers of both hands as if they are talking to each other)*

Run away. *(Hide right hand behind back)*

Run away. *(Hide left hand behind back)*

IF YOU'RE HAPPY AND YOU KNOW IT

If you're happy and you know it clap your hands (clap, clap). If you're happy and you know it clap your hands (clap, clap).

If you're happy and you know and you really want to show it, if you're happy and you know it clap your hands (clap, clap).

OTHER VERSES: STOMP YOUR FEET! SHOUT HOORAY! DO ALL THREE!

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

Besos for Baby

by Jen Arena

(Text is in English and Spanish)

Can I Be Your Dog?

by Troy Cummings

FOR READERS AGES 3+

Good Night, Good Night, Construction Site!

by Sherri Duskey Rinker

Thanking the Moon: Celebrating the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival

by Grace Lin



NOVEMBER 2020

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.



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SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1 WRITING

Create a list of things to do this month. Hang it up where everyone can see. Have your child check off items as they are completed.

8 PLAYING

Play "I Spy" with rhyming words.
I spy with my little eye something that rhymes with hat. Yes, a cat!

15 TALKING

Talk about fun things you like to do together as a family.



22 SINGING

Sing a song your toddler knows but stop and let your children fill in the blanks. "Row, row, row, your ____."

29 COUNTING

Make a number path. Recite each number as your child walks the path.

2 PLAYING

Go for a walk after dark. Pretend you are an explorer. Talk about what you see.

9 TALKING

In the morning talk about what you will do today. What are you especially excited to do?

16 SINGING

Sing a favorite rhyming song. Stop at the end of a line and have your child fill in the word. (See *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star on the back*.)

23 COUNTING

See how many cotton balls you can fit into a variety of different-sized containers.
*How many can fit in this cup?
How many can fit in your pocket?*

30 READING

Read a book about Winter. Talk about the seasons.

3 TALKING

At the end of the day talk about everything that happened. What did you like best about today?

10 SINGING

Recite "Rub a Dub Dub." (Words are on the back.)



17 COUNTING

Name four things that begin with the first letter of your child's first name.

24 READING

Read a book about Thanksgiving.



4 SINGING

Have a family sing-along. Each person gets to pick a favorite song.

11 COUNTING

Make cloud dough together. (Follow the recipe on the back.)



18 READING

Snuggle together and read two favorite books and one new book you haven't read yet.

25 WRITING

Make a book with your child. Draw letters and pictures to tell a story. Tape the pages together.

5 COUNTING

Draw numbers 1-10 in big puffy letters. Help your child color in each one as you say each one.

12 READING

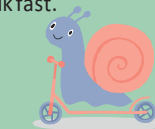
Read a fiction and nonfiction book about fall. Your library has lots to choose from!

19 WRITING

Scribble day! Have lots of papers, markers, crayons for your child to scribble and draw.

26 PLAYING

Go for a morning walk. Walk slow. Walk fast. (Toddler pace). Repeat.



6 READING

Read a book that won the Caldecott Medal. The library will help you find one based on what your child likes.

13 WRITING

Draw your child's name in big puffy letters. Help them color in the letters as you say each one.

20 PLAYING

Do the alphabet hop! Write letters on paper and place them on the floor. Hop from one to the next naming the letters.

27 TALKING

Ask your child "What is your favorite toy?" Have a conversation about the answer.

7 WRITING

Write a message to someone important.



14 PLAYING

Make a fort with sheets and furniture. Pretend you are sleeping there overnight. What will you bring? Read a book together in the fort.

21 TALKING

Talk about opposites. Reach high to the sky and low to the ground. Take a big step and a little step.

28 SINGING

March to a drum. Use any empty container as a drum, then play the drum and march to the tempo, going from slow to fast.



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Listening to nursery rhymes and songs is an early literacy experience that helps children understand how language and stories work.

Recite rhymes and sing songs with children from the time they are infants. This helps them become aware of and then play with the sounds in the words. Many rhymes tell a story with a beginning, middle, and end. This shows children how stories work and that events happen in a sequence. Good readers understand that stories and books have a beginning, middle, and end. After reciting a rhyme or singing a song ask your child about the song. What happened at the beginning? What happened at the end?

RUB A DUB DUB

Rub a Dub Dub

Three Men in a Tub

And Who Do You Think They Be?

The Butcher, The Baker, The Candlestick Maker

And All of the them Out to Sea



CLOUD DOUGH RECIPE

- 4 cups of flour
- ½ cup of vegetable oil
- Food coloring

1. Add the food coloring to the oil. Use as much or as little food color as needed to achieve the color you like.
2. Mix in the flour.
3. Use your hands to knead the dough so the oil is distributed evenly.
4. Use on a large tray or shallow bin to help keep the dough in one play. Give your child cookie cutters, measuring cups, or other items to play with the dough.

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

How Are You? / ¿Cómo estás?

by Angela Dominguez

(Text is in English and Spanish)

Arctic Animals

by Jill McDonald

FOR READERS AGES 3+

Baby Monkey, Private Eye

by Brian Selznick

A Big Mooncake for Little Star

by Grace Lin



DECEMBER 2020

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.



GROSSE
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SUNDAY



MONDAY



TUESDAY

1 WRITING

Make a winter card to send to someone special. Who will you send it to?

WEDNESDAY

2 PLAYING

Make an indoor fort with sheets and furniture. Cuddle together and read favorite books.

THURSDAY

3 TALKING

Talk about family traditions you'll celebrate this month. Look at photos from previous years and talk about them.

FRIDAY

4 SINGING

Sing "Snowflakes, Snowflakes." (*Words are on the back.*) Give each family member a scarf and move the scarves to the beat of the song.

SATURDAY

5 COUNTING

Weigh your child and write it here _____. Compare it to the weight you wrote down in January.

6 READING

Read books about different holidays and how people celebrate them.



7 WRITING

Write a message to someone important to you.

8 PLAYING

Pretend to be an animal that like cold weather. Who will you be?



9 TALKING

Talk about your feelings. What made you happy today?

10 SINGING

Sing, "The Frost Song." (*Words are on the back.*)



11 COUNTING

Measure your child's height and write it here _____. Compare it to January and June.

12 READING

Read a fiction and nonfiction book about winter. Your library has many to choose from!

13 WRITING

Draw shapes: a circle, square, triangle, and rectangle. Have your child color them in. Talk about shapes and point them out today.

14 PLAYING

Play with a large empty box. What can you pretend to be and do?

15 TALKING

At mealtimes, talk about the food you are preparing, what tools you are using, how you are making it, how it will taste.

16 SINGING

Sing some favorite songs. Clap along to the singing.

17 COUNTING

Make a high tower with blocks. How many blocks did you use?

18 READING

Be a reading role model. Let your child see you reading a book, magazine, or newspaper.

19 WRITING

Have each family member write one thing they liked about this week. Have your child decorate the paper.

20 PLAYING

Use play dough or cloud dough to make a snowman.

21 TALKING

Talk about the seasons. Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall.



22 SINGING

Sing "Cold and Snowy Morning." (*Words are on the back.*)

23 COUNTING

Name three things that are white like snow.



24 READING

Draw the alphabet on strips of paper. Add the strips of paper to a container and have your child draw one. Make that the letter of the day.

25 WRITING

Pick one color and only use that to cover a whole page with scribbles and pictures.

26 PLAYING

Go for a short walk after dark. What do you see? What does it feel like outside?

27 TALKING

Talk about favorite things that happened in 2020.

28 SINGING

Make up a song using your child's name. Incorporate other family member names or pets into the song.

29 COUNTING

It's Measure Your Feet Day. Line up your family's shoes or boots. Whose are the biggest? The smallest?

30 READING

Snuggle together and read a book of nursery rhymes. The library can help you find one.

31 WRITING

With your child, write a list of things you plan to do in 2021.



 **Public Library**
ASSOCIATION
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WWW.PLA.ORG



Your library helps children get ready to read.

- The library has many materials and ideas you can use to talk, sing, read, write, play, and count with your child. It doesn't matter if your child is four days old or four years old, we have books, music, programs, and services to help your child develop language and prereading skills.
- We have books to read together, music to borrow, places where you can write, places to play and learn, and programs for all ages.

SNOWFLAKES, SNOWFLAKES

Sing to the tune of "Frère Jacques"

Snowflakes, snowflakes,
Snowflakes, snowflakes,
All around,
All around—
Whirling, twirling snowflakes,
Whirling, twirling snowflakes,
Hit the ground,
Hit the ground.

THE FROST SONG

Sing to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell"

The frost is in the air.
The frost is in the air.
It's wintertime, it's wintertime,
The frost is in the air.

The frost tells me it's cold.
The frost tells me it's cold.
It's wintertime, it's wintertime,
The frost tells me it's cold.

SING OTHER VERSES IN WHICH THE
FROST IS "ON THE ROOF," "ON THE
WINDOWS," AND "ON THE GROUND"

COLD AND SNOWY MORNING

Sing to the tune of "Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush"

This is the way we put on our mittens	This is the way we shovel the snow
Put on our mittens	Shovel the snow
Put on our mittens	Shovel the snow
This is the way we put on our mittens	This is the way we shovel the snow
On a cold and snowy morning	On a cold and snowy morning

This is the way we put on our coats	This is the way we build a snowman
Put on our coats	Build a snowman
Put on our coats	Build a snowman
This is the way we put on our coats	This is the way we build a snowman
On a cold and snowy morning	On a cold and snowy morning.

This is the way we put on our hats
Put on our hats
Put on our hats
This is the way we put on our hats
On a cold and snowy morning



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

Pouch

by David Ezra Stein

Black Bird Yellow Sun

by Steve Light

FOR READERS AGES 3+

Imagine!

by Raúl Colón

Where the Wild Things Are

by Maurice Sendak

