

# January 2016 Early Literacy Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Helping your child get ready to read is easy! Just do one fun activity each day. Ask your children's librarian for more tips and ideas to promote pre-reading skills in your child.  <i>This month is brought to you by YSS member                      Holly Storck-Post, Youth Services Coordinator at the Monroe Public Library in Monroe Wisconsin</i>					<b>1</b> <b>PLAY</b>  Walk like a penguin, then a polar bear, and then like an ice skater!	<b>2</b> <b>READ</b>  Read a story about snow!
<b>3</b> <b>WRITE</b>  Look at pictures of snowflakes and then draw your own.	<b>4</b> <b>MATH</b>  Use colored blocks or toys to make a simple pattern.	<b>5</b> <b>SCIENCE</b>  Say something in a really high voice, a really low voice, and lots of silly voices. How does your voice sound different?	<b>6</b> <b>PLAY</b>  Get a big empty cardboard box and pretend that it's something else!	<b>7</b> <b>SING</b>  Sing your favorite song super slow and then super fast!	<b>8</b> <b>READ</b>  Read a story about your favorite animal and make the sound that animal makes.	<b>9</b>  Visit the Library!
<b>10</b> <b>SING</b>  Sing a nursery rhyme and draw a picture of it.	<b>11</b> <b>TALK</b>  Say the alphabet together and jump up and down every time you say a letter in your name!	<b>12</b> <b>SCIENCE</b>  Build a tower and see how tall you can make it before it falls over. Make another tower in a different shape.	<b>13</b> <b>PLAY</b>  Make a sock puppet and put on a show!	<b>14</b> <b>TALK</b>  At the end of the day, talk about what you did that day and what part was your favorite.	<b>15</b> <b>WRITE</b>  Draw a picture for someone special and write their name on it.	<b>16</b> <b>MATH</b>  Name all the things you see that are in the shape of a square.
<b>17</b> <b>SING</b>  Start a band in the kitchen using pots, pans, bowls and spoons! Have a parade as you play.	<b>18</b> <b>READ</b>  Visit the library and pick a book from a display to read together.	<b>19</b> <b>MATH</b>  Count the fingers of everyone in your house.	<b>20</b> <b>SCIENCE</b>  Bake something yummy together and talk about what you are measuring and mixing.	<b>21</b> <b>WRITE</b>  Cover a low table or bench with newspaper to make a drawing table for small hands.	<b>22</b> <b>TALK</b>  Name all the types of fruit and vegetables that you see at the grocery store. What color is each one?	<b>23</b>  Visit the Library!
<b>24</b> <b>SCIENCE</b>  Paint a picture using primary colors and mix the paint to make new colors.	<b>25</b> <b>MATH</b>  Go for a walk outside (bundle up!) and count how many trees you see.	<b>26</b> <b>READ</b>  Read a story together and take turns imagining what will happen next.	<b>27</b> <b>PLAY</b>  Build a fort inside and pretend you are camping! What things do you take on a camping trip?	<b>28</b> <b>SING</b>  Dance around the house while singing a silly song.	<b>29</b> <b>WRITE</b>  Make letters and spell your name out of cereal or small crackers.	<b>30</b> <b>TALK</b>  Make faces in the mirror together and make up different names for them.
<b>31</b> <b>WRITE</b>  Trace all the letters in the alphabet with your finger and make their sounds.	This is a project of the Youth Services Section (YSS) of the Wisconsin Library Association					

## February 2016 Early Literacy Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>2</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>3</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>4</b> <b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>5</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>6</b> <b>READ</b>
 <p>This is a project of the Youth Services Section (YSS) of the Wisconsin Library Association</p>	Find some socks and have a puppet show.	Gather a bunch of toys and sort them into categories by size.	Have a pajama day! Wear your jammies all day and read bedtime books.	Use dish soap and water to create a bubble play party in the sink.	Draw snowflakes and tape the pictures up to your window.	Read three books before naptime. Let your child choose the books.
	<b>7</b> <b>TALK</b>	<b>8</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>9</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>10</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>11</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>12</b> <b>READ</b>
Check out a wordless picture book from the library. Tell the story using the pictures.	Make a valentine for a friend or family member who lives far away. Why do you love that person?	Mail your valentine. Watch for the mail truck to pick it up!	Dance to a song and pause it randomly, freezing when the music stops.	Ask your librarian to teach you a new song or rhyme about counting.	Read a book about your favorite animal.	<b>Visit the Library!</b>
<b>14</b> <b>TALK</b>	<b>15</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>16</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>17</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>18</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>19</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>20</b> <b>TALK</b>
Say "I love you" in sign language. (See picture below!)	Do ten jumping jacks. Count as you jump.	Draw a picture of your family.	Make a necklace out of dry noodles or cereal.	Check out a library book about snowmen.	Practice writing your name.	Pretend you are going to the beach. What do you need to bring?
<b>21</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>22</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>23</b> <b>TALK</b>	<b>24</b> <b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>25</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>26</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>27</b>
Start your own band. Use pots, pans, bowls, and containers as instruments.	Count the number of steps it takes to walk from one end of your house to the other.	Play animal charades. Take turns pretending to be an animal and guessing.	Add food coloring to water. Use different combinations and guess what color you'll make.	Mix up pairs of colorful socks and match them together again.	Make a fort with pillows, chairs, and blankets. Pretend you are in a castle.	<b>Visit the Library!</b>
<b>28</b> <b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>29</b> <b>TALK</b>					
Make a water tornado using a clear plastic bottle, water, and food coloring.	Name a fruit or vegetable for each color of the rainbow.			<p>Helping your child get ready to read is easy!            Just do one fun activity each day. Ask your children's librarian for more tips and ideas to promote pre-reading skills in your child.</p> <p><i>This month is brought to you by YSS member <b>Kelsey Johnson-Kaiser</b>, Youth Services Librarian, La Crosse Public Library, La Crosse WI.</i></p>		

## March 2016 Early Literacy Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	This is a project of the Youth Services Section (YSS) of the Wisconsin Library Association	<b>1 TALK</b>  Teach your child some nursery rhymes.	<b>2 MATH</b>  Count fingers and toes in the tub.	<b>3 WRITE</b>  Make clouds: white chalk on blue paper.	<b>4 PLAY</b>  Use finger paints and talk about what happens when you mix colors.	<b>5 READ</b>  Windy day? Read Pat Hutchins' classic <i>The Wind Blew!</i>
		<b>6 SCIENCE</b>  Let your child stir the pancake batter.	<b>7 MATH</b>  Playing with blocks is great for learning.	<b>8 PLAY</b>  Make silly faces at each other!	<b>9 READ</b>  Point out and read the signs you see as you travel around town.	<b>10 SING</b>  Sing the alphabet song.
<b>13 SING</b>  Sing "Rain, Rain, Go Away."	<b>14 TALK</b>  Grocery shopping? Talk and build vocabulary.	<b>15 SCIENCE</b>  Take a nature walk. What do you see?	<b>16 PLAY</b>  Play peek-a-boo or hide and seek.	<b>17 READ</b>  Read <i>Finding Spring</i> by Carin Berger.	<b>18 WRITE</b>  Label your child's bed. Show them the letters in their name.	<b>19 MATH</b>  Puzzles grow spatial skills and memory.
<b>20 READ</b>  Read a Denise Fleming book.	<b>21 SING</b>  Sing very high, sing very low, sing very fast, sing very slow.	<b>22 MATH</b>  Play with measuring cups in the bath tub.	<b>23 SCIENCE</b>  Go on a color treasure hunt.	<b>24 WRITE</b>  Let your child help you "write" the grocery list.	<b>25 TALK</b>  Baby brains grow when children are touched, spoken to, and listened to.	<b>26</b>  Visit the Library!
<b>27 WRITE</b>  Using play dough builds fine motor skills.	<b>28 MATH</b>  Count at lunch time.	<b>29 READ</b>  Model reading: read your own book or magazine.	<b>30 PLAY</b>  Play a "Memory" game.	<b>31 SING</b>  Dance with your baby. Sing along!	Helping your child get ready to read is easy! Just do one fun activity each day. Ask your children's librarian for more tips and ideas to promote pre-reading skills in your child.  This month is brought to you by YSS member <i>Jenny Wegener, Head of Youth Services at the Pewaukee Public Library, Pewaukee Wisconsin</i>	

## April 2016 Early Literacy Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>This is a project of the  <b>Youth Services Section (YSS)</b>  of the Wisconsin Library  Association</p>	<p>Helping your child get ready to read is easy!  Just do one fun activity each day. Ask your children's librarian for more tips and ideas to promote pre-reading skills in your child.  <i>This month is brought to you by YSS member  <b>Svetha Hetzler, Director of the Sun Prairie Public Library,</b>  formerly Head of Children's Services at the Middleton Public Library</i></p>			<b>1 TALK</b>  Talk about the different kinds of food we eat.	<b>2</b>  Visit the Library!
<b>3 SCIENCE</b>	<b>4 MATH</b>	<b>5 PLAY</b>	<b>6 READ</b>	<b>7 SING</b>	<b>8 READ</b>	<b>9 TALK</b>
Build a building with LEGOs or blocks.	Practice counting by 1's, 5's, and 10's.	Enjoy a tea party or picnic with your child and your child's dolls or toys.	Find a wordless book and have your child make up the words for the story.	Sing "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star".	April is National Poetry Month! Check out a children's poetry book.	What words rhyme with cat?
<b>10 SING</b>	<b>11 TALK</b>	<b>12 SCIENCE</b>	<b>13 PLAY</b>	<b>14 READ</b>	<b>15 WRITE</b>	<b>16</b>
Sing the ABC song.	At bedtime, ask your child what they enjoyed most about the day.	Hide some everyday objects in a bag or box and have your child guess what it is.	Play a game of memory.	Read a favorite fairy tale and act it out.	Have your child write a letter to a friend or family member and mail it.	Visit the Library!
<b>17 READ</b>	<b>18 SING</b>	<b>19 MATH</b>	<b>20 SCIENCE</b>	<b>21 WRITE</b>	<b>22 TALK</b>	<b>23 SCIENCE</b>
Read a book about shapes and try to find similarly shaped items around your house.	Put on a CD and dance!	Have your child identify a penny, a nickel, a dime, and a quarter.	Add food coloring to water. Ask your child to guess what color the water will turn. Try combining colors.	Ask your child to draw a picture of a poem you shared together.	Visit the zoo and make some animal noises.	Drop different objects into a sink, bathtub or a bucket filled with water. See if the objects sink or float.
<b>24 WRITE</b>	<b>25 PLAY</b>	<b>26 READ</b>	<b>27 WRITE</b>	<b>28 SING</b>	<b>29 MATH</b>	<b>30 PLAY</b>
Have your child write a grocery list and go grocery shopping!	Play dress up.	Go to your library's storytime.	Have your child draw a picture of their family.	Practice different rhythms with your hands and pots and pans.	Take a ruler or measuring tape and measure different objects in your house.	Play a game of hide and seek or peek-a-boo.

## May 2016 Early Literacy Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>2</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>3</b> <b>SING</b>	<b>4</b> <b>TALK</b>	<b>5</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>6</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>7</b> <b>READ</b>
Make a maypole & dance around it. (Find streamers of different colors and dance with them.)	Get a blank greeting card. Write a message to someone special and send or deliver it.	Sing "Ring Around the Rosie" and act it out.	Name each color in the rainbow and something that matches it.	Count how many blue cars go by in 5 minutes.	Play "hot or cold." Hide something & when the person is looking tell them whether they are hot or cold.	Read anything by Eric Carle.
<b>8</b> <b>ART</b>	<b>9</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>10</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>11</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>12</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>13</b> <b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>14</b>
Color a picture you like off of <a href="http://janbrett.com">janbrett.com</a> .	Read anything by Denise Fleming.	Make a list of five favorite places to read.	Count all the eyes in your house.	Make a sign of spring out of play dough.	Fly a kite / ride a bike / take a hike.	<b>Visit the Library!</b>
<b>15</b> <b>SING</b>	<b>16</b> <b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>17</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>18</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>19</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>20</b> <b>TALK</b>	<b>21</b> <b>WRITE</b>
Sing your favorite Beatles song.	Mix shaving cream & food coloring and draw in the bathtub.	Play Red Light, Green Light, Yellow Light, Stop.	Read the directions on a food item together and then follow them. E.g. heating a pizza.	How many dishes are in the dishwasher?	Give a tour of where you live.	Practice writing your name and the names of everyone in your family. ☺
<b>22</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>23</b> <b>TALK</b>	<b>24</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>25</b> <b>SING</b>	<b>26</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>27</b> <b>ART</b>	<b>28</b>
Read a book about planting or seeds.	Talk about something that made you sad and what you did to feel better.	Write down your favorite color word.	Sing "The Hokey Pokey" and act it out.	Have a snow ball fight with paper snowballs.	Paper strip art. Take paper strips and paste them on to cardboard for a 3D effect.	<b>Visit the Library!</b>
<b>29</b> <b>TALK</b>	<b>30</b> <b>SING</b>	<b>31</b> <b>MATH</b>		<p>Helping your child get ready to read is easy! Just do one fun activity each day. Ask your children's librarian for more tips and ideas to promote pre-reading skills in your child.</p> <p><i>This month is brought to you by YSS member <b>Elizabeth Timmins</b>, Library Director &amp; Programmer, Muehl Public Library, Seymour WI.</i></p>		
Talk about today's weather.	Sing a song from Frozen or Despicable Me.	Count to 10 and back again. ☺	 <p>This is a project of the Youth Services Section (YSS) of the Wisconsin Library Association</p>			

# June 2016 Early Literacy Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Helping your child get ready to read is easy! Just do one fun activity each day. Ask your children's librarian for more tips and ideas to promote pre-reading skills in your child.  <i>This month is brought to you by YSS member                      Abby Bussen, Children's Librarian at the Muskego Public Library in Muskego Wisconsin,                      formerly Youth Services Librarian at the Cudahy Family Library in Cudahy Wisconsin.</i>			<b>1</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>2</b> <b>ART</b>	<b>3</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>4</b>
			Sign up for summer reading at your local library!	Mix equal parts cornstarch and water with some food color and freeze in cubes for outdoor melting ice chalk.	Fill up the sink with bubbles, then dip a straw into the water and blow bubbles.	Visit the Library!
<b>5</b> <b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>6</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>7</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>8</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>9</b> <b>SING</b>	<b>10</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>11</b> <b>ART</b>
Let little hands help mix batters. Talk about the changes that happen in the bowl.	Count the number of buildings on your block; ask your child to guess how many are in your city.	Gentle wrestling can help little ones get out energy at the end of the day.	Trade favorite books with a friend. It encourages sharing and trying new things!	Sing Old MacDonald and let your child act out all the animals on the farm.	Ask your librarian about her favorite books. You won't leave empty handed!	Turn empty toilet paper rolls into superhero cuffs! 1 vertical cut and paint/markers is all you need.
<b>12</b> <b>SING</b>	<b>13</b> <b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>14</b> <b>TALK</b>	<b>15</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>16</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>17</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>18</b>
Make life a musical! Sing about your routines to the tune of nursery songs.	Smell, touch, and talk to your child about the plants and flowers blooming outside.	Today is Flag Day. Talk about what the parts of our American flag symbolize.	Find a little hill outside to roll around on. Don't forget sunscreen!	Read a book by Eric Carle today!	Use a stick to practice making lines and circles in the dirt or sand.	Visit the Library!
<b>19</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>20</b> <b>ART</b>	<b>21</b> <b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>22</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>23</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>24</b> <b>TALK</b>	<b>25</b> <b>READ</b>
Be patient and read your child's favorite book repeatedly!	Sauces (chocolate, BBQ, ketchup, mustard) can be food-safe paint on washable surfaces.	It's summer solstice, longest day of the year! Explore shadows today in the extra daylight.	Chores, meet math! Have your child help sort and match socks on laundry day.	Let your child use his/her finger to practice letters and shapes in a thin layer of flour.	Have your child tell you the story of their day.	Ask your child to read you a picture book, making up their own story inspired by the pictures.
<b>26</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>27</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>28</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>29</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>30</b> <b>SING</b>	 <p style="font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">This is a project of the Youth Services Section (YSS) of the Wisconsin Library Association</p>	
Have your child 'write' a letter to a loved one, whether it's actual letters, artful scribbling, or a drawing.	Who is the tallest in your family? The shortest? Who has the longest hair? The shortest?	Point out the words on cereal boxes and other food packaging.	Make 2-ingredient play dough: 1 part conditioner to 2 parts corn starch.	Make up a silly song using words that rhyme with your child's name.		

## July 2016 Early Literacy Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Helping your child get ready to read is easy! Just do one fun activity each day. Ask your children's librarian for more tips and ideas to promote pre-reading skills in your child.  <i>This month is brought to you by YSS member Ashley Thiem-Menning, Programming Librarian, Kaukauna Public Library, Kaukauna WI.</i>					<b>1 READ</b>	<b>2 WRITE</b>
					Read a book without words!	Use a tweezers to move rice from cup to cup.
<b>3 SING</b>	<b>4 TALK</b>	<b>5 MATH</b>	<b>6 READ</b>	<b>7 SCIENCE</b>	<b>8 PLAY</b>	<b>9</b>
Sing "Twinkle, Twinkle" with just da's.	Make a puppet from a sock and make it talk!	Sort of deck of cards by suit.	Read a book about zoo animals.	Mix vinegar and baking soda!	Mix 1/2 c. of baby oil with 4 c. of flour. Cloud dough!	<b>Visit the Library!</b>
<b>10 SING</b>	<b>11 MATH</b>	<b>12 ART</b>	<b>13 PLAY</b>	<b>14 TALK</b>	<b>15 SCIENCE</b>	<b>16 READ</b>
Sing "Wheels on the Bus" with the motions.	Cut numbers from sandpaper and make number rubbings!	Finger paint!	Put a bunch of objects together then sort them!	Talk about the weather today.	Plant a seed and watch it grow!	Read poetry!
<b>17 WRITE</b>	<b>18 SING</b>	<b>19 MATH</b>	<b>20 TALK</b>	<b>21 PLAY</b>	<b>22 SCIENCE</b>	<b>23</b>
Practice using a scissors.	Sing the ABC's like a monster!	Cut shapes out of paper and identify them.	Listen to a book on CD then talk about it!	Draw with glue and sprinkle with sand / glitter / sprinkles!	See which objects sink or float in the tub!	<b>Visit the Library!</b>
<b>24 READ</b>	<b>25 WRITE</b>	<b>26 SING</b>	<b>27 MATH</b>	<b>28 TALK</b>	<b>29 PLAY</b>	<b>30 SCIENCE</b>
Read a book with facts in it.	Peel stickers to make a picture!	Sing a song with a recording!	Measure things with a ruler!	Chant and clap nursery rhymes.	Play with building blocks!	Fill a jar with heavy cream and shake to make butter!
<b>31 SING</b>						
Sing a song slow, then sing it fast!						



This is a project of the Youth Services Section (YSS) of the Wisconsin Library Association

## August 2016 Early Literacy Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1 READ</b>	<b>2 TALK</b>	<b>3 MATH</b>	<b>4 WRITE</b>	<b>5 PLAY</b>	<b>6</b>
	Read an alphabet book. Practice making the sound of each letter and try to think of words that start with that letter.	Use all your senses to explore a marshmallow together. Ask questions to prompt your little one to describe how the marshmallow looks, feels, smells, sounds, and tastes.	Have a "shape of the day" hunt around the house. How many circles can you find?	Let your child practice writing. This can be scribbling, drawing, or practicing letters.	Play "I Spy"	<b>Visit the Library!</b>
<b>7 SCIENCE</b>	<b>8 MATH</b>	<b>9 PLAY</b>	<b>10 READ</b>	<b>11 SING</b>	<b>12 READ</b>	<b>13 TALK</b>
Do chores together! Pushing a broom, for example, helps children solve problems like how to get the crumbs into the dust pan.	Use your feet or hands to measure different objects. How many of your feet do you think will fit on this rug? How many of your hands will fit on a plate?	Fill a couple plastic containers with different objects, like dry rice and dry beans. Let your little one shake them and talk about the different sounds they make.	Let your child choose a book for you to read together.	Sing the "name game" together: "Katie, Katie, bo-batie; Banana-fana fo-fatie; Mee-my-mo-matie; Katie!" Sing it for each member in your family.	Check out a wordless picture book from the library and take turns telling each other what's happening in the story.	Talk about the pictures in a book. What do you see?
<b>14 SING</b>	<b>15 SCIENCE</b>	<b>16 TALK</b>	<b>17 PLAY</b>	<b>18 READ</b>	<b>19 WRITE</b>	<b>20</b>
Sing a nursery rhyme together.	Explore an ice cube with your little one and notice what happens as it melts.	Crinkle leaves in your hands and talk about how they feel and sound.	Make an indoor fort with sheets and chairs.	Read a book together and let your little one turn the pages.	Write or draw on the sidewalk with chalk.	<b>Visit the Library!</b>
<b>21 TALK</b>	<b>22 PLAY</b>	<b>23 SCIENCE</b>	<b>24 MATH</b>	<b>25 WRITE</b>	<b>26 TALK</b>	<b>27 PLAY</b>
Go on a nature walk (or just walk around your neighborhood or house) and talk about the different things you see, smell, hear, taste, and touch along the way.	Practice making different animal sounds.	Play a game of "Sink or Float?" With a small tub of water and several items to put in the water, make predictions as to which will float and which will sink.	Count objects around the house. How many doors do you have? How many windows?	Practice writing letters in the sand or in a pie tin filled with rice.	Find a quilt or patterned blanket and help your little one identify all the different colors, shapes, and patterns.	Have a dance party!
<b>28 SING</b>	<b>29 SCIENCE</b>	<b>30 MATH</b>	<b>31 PLAY</b>	Helping your child get ready to read is easy! Just do one fun activity each day. Ask your children's librarian for more tips and ideas to promote pre-reading skills in your child.  <i>This month is brought to you by YSS member Katrina Dombrowsky, Youth Services Director at the Columbus Public Library in Columbus Wisconsin</i>		 This is a project of the Youth Services Section (YSS) of the Wisconsin Library Association
Sing "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" and then try substituting the word "star" with other words--the sillier, the better!.	Plant seeds in a Ziplock bag with a moist paper towel and observe as they sprout and grow.	Count the pages in your child's book together.	Make sock puppets or paper bag puppets and act out your favorite story.			

# September 2016 Early Literacy Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<p>Helping your child get ready to read is easy! Just do one fun activity each day. Ask your children's librarian for more tips and ideas to promote pre-reading skills in your child. <i>This month is brought to you by YSS members</i></p> <p><i>Karen Wendt, Youth Services Coordinator at the Monona Public Library in Monona Wisconsin, and Geri Ceci Cupery and Ashley Byers of the E.D. Locke Public Library in McFarland Wisconsin</i></p>					<b>1</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>2</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>3</b>
				Plan a picnic. Invite child to "write" the shopping list. Shop together. Pack the picnic. Have fun indoors or out.	Pull out the pots and pans. Have a drumming session.	<b>Visit the Library!</b>	
<b>4</b> <b>TALK</b>	<b>5</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>6</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>7</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>8</b> <b>SING</b>	<b>9</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>10</b> <b>TALK</b>	
Use words that start with the same letter (alliteration) and help your child to hear the letter sounds - example: 'Big Bob bounced a ball.'	Add different words to familiar songs, such as putting animals in the song "Wheels on the Bus" or adding actions to "If You're Happy & You Know It."	Create a bedtime routine. What does teddy need to do to get ready for bed?	Help children "read" labels as they shop with you.	Sing "The Itsy Bitsy Spider" and add finger actions.	Point out words everywhere and talk about words that start with the same sounds.	Make a feely box. Tape different textured materials inside and describe what you feel.	
<b>11</b> <b>SING</b>	<b>12</b> <b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>13</b> <b>TALK</b>	<b>14</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>15</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>16</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>17</b>	
Sing "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes." Point to the body parts.	Outdoor games are essential for children to learn and explore natural objects and nature. Teach your toddler the names of plants and animals.	Give everything a name. Build your child's vocabulary by talking about interesting words and objects.	Play 'I Spy' with rhymes - example: "I spy something that rhymes with sock."	Read <i>Flora and the Flamingo</i> by Molly Idle, a wordless lift-the-flap picture book. Describe the scenes.	Place a large piece of paper on the wall or floor. Make marks on the paper. Describe them as wiggly lines, pink dots, or red circles.	<b>Visit the Library!</b>	
<b>18</b> <b>TALK</b>	<b>19</b> <b>SING</b>	<b>20</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>21</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>22</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>23</b> <b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>24</b> <b>READ</b>	
Point out the letters in your child's name that you see in signs and billboards around town.	Sing or chant the rhyme "Pat a Cake" while you mix 6T of flour and a little water. Stir and knead the dough.	Choose nonfiction books from the library to help your child learn about their favorite animal.	Find different-sized jars with lids. Play a matching game.	Draw letters with sidewalk chalk, or make letters out of play dough.	Take a "looking up" tour outside. Talk about the different cloud forms.	Read <i>Apple Pie ABC</i> by Alison Murray and bake an apple pie to share.	
<b>25</b> <b>WRITE</b>	<b>26</b> <b>MATH</b>	<b>27</b> <b>READ</b>	<b>28</b> <b>PLAY</b>	<b>29</b> <b>SING</b>	<b>30</b> <b>TALK</b>		
Sit baby near you when you write your shopping lists, pay bills, or write letters so she can see you writing.	Collect pairs of objects. Hold both and ask "Which one is mine? Which one belongs to you?" Then sort into two piles.	<i>Read Hop on Pop</i> by Dr. Seuss. See how many rhyming words you can think of together: hop, top, bop, mop, lop, stop, drop, and flop.	Incorporate play with literacy. Play restaurant. Have the child scribble down your order.	Sing to baby about your day or things you see on a walk. Singing helps baby understand syllables of words.	Have your child help you think of other words that start with the same sound as the first letter in their name -- like for Megan; milk, moon or mug.	<b>This is a project of the Youth Services Section (YSS) of the Wisconsin Library Association</b>	

# October 2016 Early Literacy Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: center;">Helping your child get ready to read is easy! Just do one fun activity each day. Ask your children's librarian for more tips and ideas to promote pre-reading skills in your child.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>This month is brought to you by YSS member Heather Holton, Youth Services Librarian, Mead Public Library, Sheboygan WI</i></p>			 <p style="font-size: small;">This is a project of the Youth Services Section (YSS) of the Wisconsin Library Association</p>			<b>1 PLAY</b>
						Rake up a big pile of leaves and then JUMP!
<b>2 SING</b>	<b>3 PLAY</b>	<b>4 SCIENCE</b>	<b>5 MATH</b>	<b>6 WRITE</b>	<b>7 READ</b>	<b>8</b>
Sing "Old McDonald" in honor of Farm Animal Day.	Blow a leaf across the table with a straw. Now race with your grown-up's leaf.	Mix 1/3 bottle of water with blue food coloring. Fill the rest of the bottle with cooking oil. Instant ocean!	Count how many letters are in your first name. How many in your last. Which is more?	Poetry Day! Read a poem and then write one of your own.	Look through the cupboards and find items that start with the same letter as your first name.	<b>Visit the Library!</b>
<b>9 MATH</b>	<b>10 PLAY</b>	<b>11 SING</b>	<b>12 TALK</b>	<b>13 MATH</b>	<b>14 SING</b>	<b>15 WRITE</b>
Collect fall leaves and sort them by color.	Listen to music and have a dance party!	Sing "Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed!"	Tell a story about a leaf's adventures as it blows in the wind.	Write each letter of your name in different colors.	Sing "Baa, Baa, Black Sheep." Now, sing it with Red and Blue sheep!	Create a card for someone you love.
<b>16 SING</b>	<b>17 TALK</b>	<b>18 MATH</b>	<b>19 SCIENCE</b>	<b>20 SING</b>	<b>21 READ</b>	<b>22</b>
Sing "Teddy Bear, teddy bear" with your own stuffed friend.	Make a playdough house. Talk about what other kinds of homes people live in.	Find the star hidden in an apple by cutting it in half diagonally. How many seeds are in the star?	Explore and discuss the different parts of a corn cob. What textures do you feel?	Do You Know the Muffin Man? Sing the song with other characters like the Apple Man and Banana Man.	Read Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons. How many buttons are on your clothes?	<b>Visit the Library!</b>
<b>23 PLAY</b>	<b>24 READ</b>	<b>24 TALK</b>	<b>25 SCIENCE</b>	<b>26 READ</b>	<b>27 WRITE</b>	<b>28 PLAY</b>
Turn an empty box into a racecar.	Read Not a Box and reuse your racecar from yesterday!	Repeat the "Pease porridge hot" rhyme three times, going faster each time.	Use an app like "Kodable" to introduce coding.	Read a book about an animal that hibernates.	Write the letter "O" for October. What else starts with the letter "O"?	Turn an empty can into a drum and make some music!
<b>30 PLAY</b>	<b>31 MATH</b>					
Play dress up!	Give ten hugs.					

## November 2016 Early Literacy Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1 SING</b>	<b>2 MATH</b>	<b>3 SCIENCE</b>	<b>4 PLAY</b>	<b>5 READ</b>
 <p>This is a project of the Youth Services Section (YSS) of the Wisconsin Library Association</p>		Celebrate International Drum Month! Make your own drum out of an oatmeal can.	It's Cookie Monsters Birthday! Bake chocolate chip cookies with a different number of chocolate chips.	Make sundaes together. Mix toppings and make it colorful.	Play musical chairs - with pillows!	Put on a puppet show to your favorite book.
	<b>6 PLAY</b>	<b>7 READ</b>	<b>8 MATH</b>	<b>9 WRITE</b>	<b>10 SING</b>	<b>11 WRITE</b>
Make turkey handprints. Paint your hand and place it on paper.	Write a short story about the day you just had.	Clean out your pantry and donate can goods to your local food bank. How many cans are you donating?	What are you thankful for? Draw pictures to show your thoughts.	Put on some music and make up a new song and dance.	It's Veterans Day. Write a thank you card to a veteran.	<b>Visit the Library!</b>
<b>13 PLAY</b>	<b>14 SCIENCE</b>	<b>15 SCIENCE</b>	<b>16 MATH</b>	<b>17 TALK</b>	<b>18 SCIENCE</b>	<b>19 PLAY</b>
Cut a water noodle in half and make a marble race track.	National Pickle Day. Learn how to make your own pickles at home.	America Recycles Day! Make a bird feeder out of an empty water bottle.	National Button Day. Find as many buttons as you can. Count them and put them in groups by size.	Sit in a circle and take turns telling silly stories.	It's Mickey Mouse's Birthday! Make pancakes in the shape of Mickey.	National Play Monopoly Day. Play Monopoly!
<b>20 SCIENCE</b>	<b>21 WRITE</b>	<b>22 MATH</b>	<b>23 PLAY</b>	<b>24 TALK</b>	<b>25 SCIENCE</b>	<b>26</b>
Go on a nature walk. How many colors can you find?	Make a thanksgiving menu. Write and draw pictures for each food.	Put together a puzzle.	Make up a new game and have everyone play it. Don't forget the rules!	Read a book about Thanksgiving. What are you thankful for?	Fill a balloon with homemade play-doh, and create a new toy.	<b>Visit the Library!</b>
<b>27 TALK</b>	<b>28 SING</b>	<b>29 READ</b>	<b>30 PLAY</b>	Helping your child get ready to read is easy! Just do one fun activity each day. Ask your children's librarian for more tips and ideas to promote pre-reading skills in your child.  <i>This month is brought to you by YSS member <b>Amanda O'Neal, Children's Librarian, Winneconne Public Library, Winneconne WI.</b></i>		
Talk about your feelings that you're having right at this moment.	Sing a song as loud as you can!	Act out a book with your stuffed animals.	Too cold out? Set up your tent in the living room and have an indoor campout.			

## December 2016 Early Literacy Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>This is a project of the Youth Services Section (YSS) of the Wisconsin Library Association</p>	<p>Helping your child get ready to read is easy! Just do one fun activity each day. Ask your children's librarian for more tips and ideas to promote pre-reading skills in your child.</p> <p><i>This month is brought to you by YSS member <b>Katherine Elchert</b>, Public Services Director, Rice Lake Public Library, Rice Lake WI.</i></p>			<b>1 ART</b>	<b>2 READ</b>	<b>3</b>
				Cut out colorful shapes and make a collage.	Read a book about different kinds of families!	<b>Visit the Library!</b>
<b>4 MATH</b>	<b>5 SING</b>	<b>6 READ</b>	<b>7 ART</b>	<b>8 SCIENCE</b>	<b>9 PLAY</b>	<b>10 SING</b>
Check out three books illustrated by your favorite picture book artist.	Sing as loud as you can in the bathtub.	Read a story about winter!	Decorate your window with paper snowflakes.	Go for a nature hike. How many animals did you see?	Pretend you are a dinosaur! Can you stomp? How loud can you roar?	Sing "heads, shoulders, knees and toes" as fast as you can!
<b>11 ART</b>	<b>12 PLAY</b>	<b>13 SCIENCE</b>	<b>14 TALK</b>	<b>15 MATH</b>	<b>16 WRITE</b>	<b>17</b>
Draw a picture featuring a beloved book character.	Build a snow fort. Invite a friend and explore it together!	Make silly jello shapes by using cookie cutters! Can you make them wiggle?	Using post it notes, label different things found around your house.	Count the number of stairs while climbing up a staircase!	Using your feet, write out your name in the snow.	<b>Visit the Library!</b>
<b>18 TALK</b>	<b>19 READ</b>	<b>20 SING</b>	<b>21 PLAY</b>	<b>22 ART</b>	<b>23 TALK</b>	<b>24 SCIENCE</b>
Ask a librarian about books featuring different folk tales. Check out a few!	Read the folk tales you checked out yesterday. Did you find a new favorite?	Sing along to various songs using jingle bells.	Play flashlight tag with your family!	Together pick out one color to wear. Dress up only in that color! Can you find any other things in your chosen color?	Have a tea party! Make sure to say "please" and "thank you!"	Bundle up and go outside to blow bubbles. If it's cold enough, they'll freeze in midair!
<b>25 PLAY</b>	<b>26 ART</b>	<b>27 SCIENCE</b>	<b>28 READ</b>	<b>29 SING</b>	<b>30 MATH</b>	<b>31 TALK</b>
Create an obstacle course in your living room! Be creative with household objects to build it.	Finger paint in the bathtub!	Bird watch from a window. Can you keep track of the different birds you see?	Read a book by Mo Willems. Did you discover how wily that pigeon can be?	Before bedtime, make-up a song about your child's day.	Play "I spy" with shapes and objects around the house.	It's the end of the year! Talk about favorite memories from 2016.