

2026 EARLY LITERACY CALENDAR



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

JANUARY | Early Literacy



2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Happy New Year! Make a wish for your family this year.	2 Read a poetry book.	3 Take a walk outside and look for birds. How many do you see?
4 Make a warm drink to sip on while you read.	5 Sing "The Hokey Pokey."	6 Visit the library!	7 Walk with your family member in the snow. Make snow angels together.	8 Build a snowman. Dress it up to look like someone you love.	9 Pretend that you are a hungry creature. What will you eat?	10 Look at the windows in your house. Which one is the longest?
11 Get some toys out to play with. Sort them by color.	12 Build a tower out of things that aren't blocks.	13 Make a fruit pizza out of a piece of bread or tortilla. What can you put on it?	14 Play with play dough. Pretend you are making cookies for someone you love.	15 Read one of your favorite books two times.	16 Sing "The Wheels on the Bus."	17 Ask a family member to help you make snowflakes out of paper.
18 Tell one of your favorite stories by memory; then read it. What could you remember?	19 Cut strips of yarn into different lengths. Sort them into small, medium and large.	20 Visit a museum!	21 Look around your living room. What is the smallest thing you see?	22 Make an indoor sensory box with cotton ball snow. Add scoops and tongs.	23 Read a book while using different voices.	24 Make a card and give it to someone special. Draw a picture of yourself to put in the card.
25 Talk about the animals that might be sleeping during winter. Where are they?	26 Pretend it is summer, and you are at the beach. Get a towel out and read your book on it!	27 Talk about feeling words: happy, sad, scared, lonely, mad, embarrassed.	28 Count to 10 in a loud voice, soft voice, high voice and low voice.	29 Count the number of shoes in your closet.	30 Have a dance party.	31 Draw a picture of your family. Who is the tallest? Who is the smallest?

FEBRUARY | Early Literacy



2026

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1 Do a puzzle together.	2 Give 10 hugs. Count as you hug.	3 Sing "Mary Had a Little Lamb." Try out other animals too.	4 Practice counting to 10. Count on your fingers. How high can you count?	5 Cut out different size hearts. Use hearts to make an animal and glue it to paper.	6 Read a book about Valentine's Day.	7 Write the letter "O" and draw a picture inside.
8 Use cotton swabs to form letters. Can you make the letters in your name?	9 Tell a grown-up about your favorite book.	10 Help measure and mix in the kitchen today.	11 Visit the Library!	12 Have a red themed meal today.	13 Gather some toys that can get wet and take a bath. See what floats.	14 Happy Valentine's Day! Tell someone you love them.
15 Match pictures with the letters they start with.	16 Learn a joke and tell it to someone in your family.	17 Sing "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star." Sing it again fast and slow.	18 Stack blocks to make a tower as high as you can.	19 Play with play dough.	20 Read your favorite book.	21 Play peek-a-boo.
22 Do some yoga moves together.	23 Use blankets to make a fort.	24 Look around the room and play "I Spy" with numbers you see in the room.	25 Draw letters in the snow.	26 Find some toys and sort them by color or size.	27 Have quiet reading time today.	28 Visit the library!

MARCH | Early Literacy



2026

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1	Use masking tape to create a simple house on the floor.	2	Learn the American Sign Language symbol for love .	3	Talk about the weather outside.	4	Go on a shape scavenger hunt around your house.	5	Make a fruit salad using your favorite fruit.	6	Act out your favorite fairytale or story.	7	Sort your toys by color.
8	Create a rocket ship or car using an empty box.	9	Bake cookies with your loved ones.	10	Learn a new rhyme.	11	Visit the library! Attend a library program.	12	Tell a story using shadow puppets.	13	Talk about the pictures in a book.	14	Visit the library! Checkout an audiobook.
15	Use blocks or Legos to create a house or castle.	16	Have a dance party with your loved ones.	17	Sing "The Itsy-Bitsy Spider." Sing it again fast and slow.	18	Find and count 10 red items around the house.	19	Create a drawing using stickers.	20	Read your favorite book.	21	Visit the library! Explore the WonderKnook.
22	Show your child a random photo and tell them a story related to it.	23	Read a children's book about mindfulness and talk about it.	24	Pretend you are different animals. What sounds do they make? How do they move?	25	Count the letters in your name.	26	Create an obstacle course using toys.	27	Create a photo book of family members.	28	Visit the library! Ask a Librarian for a children's book recommendation.
29	Name three things that begin with the letter A.	30	Read with a stuffed animal.	31	Visit the library! Check out a children's magazine.								

April | Early Literacy



2026

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			1 Sprinkle sugar on a cookie sheet and write numbers in the sugar.	2 Create a fort from blankets.	3 Create a drawing of your favorite book or fairytale.	4 Visit the library! Checkout a CORE Picture Book.
5 Sing a song with hand movements like "Open, Shut Them" or "Pat-a-cake."	6 Hug a loved one.	7 Play a rhyming words game.	8 Find and count five circles around the house.	9 Pretend to be a flamingo. Can you balance on one foot?	10 Act out a book or poem.	11 Visit the library! Check out a book about an animal.
12 Use popsicle sticks to create letters or shapes.	13 Dance to a favorite song.	14 Visit the library! Attend a library program.	15 Sort your toys by color.	16 Have a make-believe tea party with your toys.	17 Create a cozy reading nook at home.	18 Sing "Head, Shoulder, Knees and Toes." Sing it again fast and slow.
19 Clap and stomp to a song using a pattern.	20 Draw a picture for someone you love.	21 Share ways you like to express love.	22 Blow some bubbles. Count each bubble as you pop it.	23 Outdoor Scavenger Hunt.	24 Read an e-book together.	25 Visit the library! Checkout a Booster Pack or Launch Pad.
26 Sing "The Wheels on the Bus" song. Sing it again fast and slow.	27 Practice kid-friendly yoga poses.	28 Play a game of freeze dance with your favorite song.	29 Play a game of "Love Charades."	30 Create songs to go along with daily routines like brushing your teeth.		

May | Early Literacy



2026

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3	Explore a new food with your five senses.	4 Draw a picture for a loved one.	5 Draw a picture of something you like to do in spring and label it.	6 Count how many things you put in your cart at the grocery store.	7 Play hide and seek with letters. Hide letters around your house, then find them.	1 Read a book about your favorite animal. What did you learn from it?
10	Practice cutting with play dough. Make play dough snakes then cut them with scissors.	11 Do something helpful and kind for someone in your family.	12 Make up real or silly nonsense words that rhyme with your name.	13 Help your grown-up do the laundry. Sort the clothes by color and count each pile.	14 String noodles, beads or cereal onto pipe cleaners or string.	2 Visit the Library! Check out a Vox Book or Wonderbook. The book will read itself aloud to you!
17	Create a play for your family.	18 Play a game with your family.	19 Go on a nature hunt outside and collect natural materials in a bag. Talk about what you found.	20 Go on a shape hunt. Count how many shapes you can find.	21 Play a game outside.	15 Read a book with your favorite character in it.
24	Use a mirror or picture of yourself to draw a self-portrait. Notice what makes you unique!	25 Give someone a compliment today.	26 Read a wordless picture book. Create words for the story.	27 Make a number memory game with paper and play together.	28 Make a play dough creation.	16 Visit the Library! Sign up for 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten or read a book to add to your 1KB4K log!
31	Have a freeze dance party. Play your favorite music, dance, stop the music then freeze!					22 Read some books about spring.
						23 Visit the Library! Check out a non-fiction book.
						29 Make a blanket fort and read inside of it.
						30 Count how many things you have hanging on your refrigerator

June | Early Literacy



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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Make a card for a loved one.	2 Use play dough to make letters. Talk about things that start with each letter you make.	3 Play hide and seek with numbers. Hide numbers around your house, then find them.	4 Make a sticker collage.	5 Read some books outside.	6 Visit the Library! Check out a CORE Picture Book.
7 Try a new recipe. Help your grown-up make it.	8 Take a moment to stretch, breath and relax. Try stretching your arms, legs, neck and back.	9 Talk about things that start with each letter of your name.	10 Find five objects you can draw with. Line them up shortest to tallest.	11 Play outside today.	12 Act out your favorite story with props or puppets.	13 Visit the Library! Check out an early reader.
14 Make play dough creatures with various craft supplies (pipe cleaners, googly eyes, beads, etc.).	15 Do something you love with your family.	16 Make puppets out of paper and popsicle sticks. Have a puppet show with your family.	17 Make a shape memory game with paper and play together.	18 Try a new game today.	19 Turn off the lights and read with a flashlight.	20 Visit the Library! Check out a KDL Go Pack from the library!
21 Draw pictures, letters or numbers with sidewalk chalk.	22 Create a gift for a loved one.	23 Sing the alphabet, then go on a letter hunt. Call out a letter and find it.	24 Help your grown-up measure ingredients while cooking a meal.	25 Make a bracelet or necklace with pipe cleaners and cheerios or beads.	26 Read your favorite book. Draw a picture of your favorite part.	27 Visit the Library! Check out an audiobook.
28 Practice cutting with free paint sample cards. Make a collage with them.	29 Visit the Library! Check out a board book.	30 Put beans in a Ziploc bag with damp paper towel. Tape it to your window and watch them grow!				

July | Early Literacy



2026

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5 Give a hug to a family member every time they say your name.

6 Jump for all the syllables in each family member's name.

7 Go on a flower hunt. Can you learn the names of the flowers you see?

1 Grab two spoons and sing "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" as you row with spoons.

2 Use a sheet as a cape and pretend you are a superhero.

3 Read a story outside on a blanket.

4 Name the colors of the rainbow.

12 Pretend that you are angry. Take a deep breath and count to three on your fingers.

13 Make a card for someone you love.

14 Find five small things you could fit in your pocket today.

15 Count your fingers and toes in a funny voice.

16 Cut out numbers and paint them with watercolor for your windows.

17 Search for the first letter of your last name in a book you read.

18 Dig a hole in the backyard. What treasures can you find?

19 Play dress up and pretend to be a parent.

20 Name the people in your family. What do you like about them?

21 Run together and pretend to chase imaginary creatures.

22 Which buildings can you see from your house? Find the tallest and the smallest.

23 Enjoy water play by painting pictures on the sidewalk with water.

24 Find a book that includes an animal you like.

25 Visit the library!

26 Trace your handprint. Then trace a grownup's handprint outside of yours.

27 Make a colorful snack. Use more than three colors.

28 Sing "If You're Happy and You Know It." Make up endings that make you laugh.

29 Count the number of steps it takes to get from your kitchen to your bedroom.

30 Talk about your favorite things to do in the summer.

31 Sing your ABCs. Sing it loud and sing it in a whisper.

August | Early Literacy

LOVE
MAXIMIZE LOVE
MANAGE STRESS

TALK
SING AND POINT

COUNT
GROUP AND COMPARE

PLAY
EXPLORE THROUGH
MOVEMENT AND PLAY

READ
AND DISCUSS STORIES

2026

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2 Play with play dough. Can you shape it into letters?

3 Make a reading tent. Put blankets or sheets over chairs and crawl in to read.

4 Unroll yarn on the ground to imitate a tightrope. Walk the line with a toy on your head.

5 Count the stairs as you walk up and down today.

6 Cut alphabet letters out of a magazine or newspaper and make words.

7 How many words can you think of that begin with the letter L? Look around the room.

1 Sing "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes." Sing it fast and slow.

8 Visit the library!

9 Visit a new park!

10 Pick out a new meal to cook. Read through the recipe together as you make it.

11 Have a yellow-themed lunch today.

12 Draw outside with chalk. Draw pictures, shapes and letters.

13 Practice throwing balls into a laundry basket.

14 Have quiet reading time today.

15 Take a nature walk and collect items. Staple baggies to paper and make a nature book.

16 Pick out the books you read today. Why did you pick those books?

17 Think of something new you're going to do soon. Talk about what to expect.

18 Finger paint. Mix corn syrup and food coloring. Use it to write letters on paper.

19 Sing "The Itsy Bitsy Spider." Sing it fast and slow.

20 Use buckets and brushes and have a car wash for your toys.

21 Read a favorite book. Draw a picture about the book and talk about it.

22 Visit the library!

23 Play a board game. Try playing while laying on your stomach.

24 Tell a family member what you love about them.

25 What rhymes with "dad"? Silly rhymes are OK too!

26 Go on a hunt for blue items in the room. Line them up and talk about what you found.

27 Play peek-a-boo.

28 When at the store, search for the letters in your name. Look on signs, boxes, etc.

29 What are your favorite animals? Can you make their sounds? Try moving like them!

30 Make a fish by cutting a wedge from a paper plate and gluing it to the opposite side.

31 Borrow an audio book from the library.

September | Early Literacy



2026

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		1 Sing "Old MacDonald."	2 When you are eating, count the plates on the table.	3 Blow bubbles outside.	4 Read a book in a silly voice.	5 Visit the Library! Try a Vox or Wonderbook.
6 Identify the letters in your child's name.	7 Go for a walk together and look for flowers.	8 Point to pictures as you read today.	9 Count the doors at your house.	10 Pretend to make a meal. What will you make?	11 Reread a favorite story.	12 Visit the Library! Find a favorite movie.
13 Play with rhymes. What rhymes with mop and top?	14 Draw a picture to give to someone you love.	15 At the playground, talk about words like up, down, over and around.	16 Count how many big hops it takes to get across a room.	17 Play hide and seek inside or outside.	18 Read a book with animal sounds.	19 Visit the Library! Check out the CORE picture books.
20 Use a board book to teach how to turn book pages.	21 Turn on a fun song and dance together.	22 After reading today, ask, "What was your favorite part?"	23 Count how long you can stand on one foot.	24 Make a tower with blocks.	25 Read a book about fall.	26 Visit the Library! See what you can find in the non-fiction section.
27 Go for a walk but add in some jumping, hopping and skipping.	28 Color a picture together.	29 Spend time at a playground.	30 Give your favorite stuffed animal a big hug.			

October | Early Literacy



2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Color with sidewalk chalk outside.	2 Read a book about pumpkins.	3 Visit the Library! Check out the new book area.
4 Tear up a piece of paper over the trash can.	5 Look up at the clouds in the sky. What shapes do you see?	6 Look at pumpkins and see how many sizes and colors they come in!	7 Count your toy cars or another small toy. How many do you have?	8 Dress up like your favorite character.	9 Read snack or cereal boxes together.	10 Visit the Library! Find a classic children's book.
11 Practice writing your name.	12 Make a favorite snack together.	13 Point at the letters in your name when you see them.	14 Use play dough to make numbers.	15 Make a fort with blankets.	16 Retell a favorite fairy tale.	17 Visit the Library! Maybe an audiobook would be fun.
18 Play "I Spy" in the car together.	19 Sing a favorite song together.	20 Sing "The Wheels on the Bus." Sing it loudly and then quietly.	21 Go on a shape hunt around the house. What can you find that is a circle?	22 Decorate an old box and turn it into something new!	23 Read a book you've never read before. What did you think?	24 Visit the Library! Did you know you can check out family games?
25 Do a puzzle together.	26 Make a card to give to someone special.	27 As you read, ask questions like "What do you think will happen next?"	28 Find some toys and sort them by color or size.	29 Hide a toy inside and then turn off the lights and find it with a flashlight.	30 Sing the alphabet song. Try singing it really fast and slow!	31 Go for a walk outside and see how many kinds of leaves you can find.

November | Early Literacy



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1	Play "Simon Says." Take turns being Simon.	2	Cuddle up with your favorite person and read your favorite story together.	3	Can you find things in your house that start with the letter M?	4	Find something smooth. Find something fuzzy. Which do you like better? Why?	5	Draw a picture of your favorite grown-up showing them what you like to do best.	6	At bedtime, use a flashlight to make shadow puppets. Tell a story about them.	7	Gobble like a turkey. What other animal sounds do you know?
8	Try a new food. What did it taste like? How did it smell?	9	Check out a kids' cookbook and try a new recipe together.	10	Search for objects that are yellow. Are all the yellow colors the same?	11	How many squirrels do you see outside today?	12	Make a noodle or cereal necklace by threading pieces onto yarn or pipe cleaners.	13	Read a book about birds. What do different kinds of birds do when the weather turns cold?	14	Visit the library!
15	Make a box fort! Be sure to add a cozy spot for reading and resting.	16	Surprise someone with a hug today.	17	How many pretend cookies can you make out of play dough?	18	Fill a bowl with dry rice. Use measuring spoons and cups to pour and divide.	19	Walk around your neighborhood. Do any of the trees still have any leaves?	20	Cut up a magazine picture. Mix the pieces and put it back together like a puzzle.	21	Make a shopping list together. Draw pictures of the items you'd like to purchase.
22	Use washable ink and paper to make fingerprint creatures.	23	Look at and talk about a family photo. Tell a special story about your family.	24	Listen to a favorite song. Tap out the beat with wooden spoons.	25	Sing "Ten in the Bed." Act it out with toys.	26	Talk about the different kinds of food in your feast.	27	Use painter's tape to make an indoor hopscotch course.	28	Visit the library!
29	Dress up as your favorite character. What will your character be today?	30	Visit the library!										

December | Early Literacy



2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Pick a color of the day and look for things of that color.	2 Use blocks to make two identical structures.	3 Listen to some favorite music and clap to the beat.	4 Read a favorite book today. What do you like about the book?	5 Clap your hands to the syllables of the names of the people in your family.
6 Make finger paints with soap flakes, water and food coloring.	7 While at the store, look for all the letters in your name.	8 Use construction paper to make placemats for your family. Write their names.	9 Use a clothespin to pick up small items and drop them in a cup while counting them.	10 Sit on the floor opposite each other and roll a ball back and forth.	11 Write your name in big block letters. Color inside the letters	12 Visit the library!
13 Play with puzzles.	14 Make a card and give it to someone special.	15 Name some animals that live on a farm. Then sing "Old MacDonald."	16 Make a pattern using gumdrops or other colorful candy.	17 Fill a baggie with hair gel and a drop of food coloring. Close the bag and use your finger to write.	18 Read a book about winter and compare it to what's happening outside.	19 Have a red-themed meal today.
20 Have quiet reading time today.	21 Make a happy face and a sad face on the front and back of a paper plate.	22 Sing a favorite song. Sing it fast, slow, loud and quiet.	23 Play with some buttons. Count and sort them.	24 Create an indoor obstacle course. Use pillows and chairs so you can jump and crawl.	25 Practice cutting with scrap paper or old magazines.	26 Visit the library! Ask a librarian for a book recommendation.
27 Color a picture together.	28 Give your favorite stuffed animal a big hug!	29 How many words can you think of that rhyme with the word "tree"?	30 What are your favorite foods to eat around the holidays? Why?	31 Make a clock out of a paper plate and count down to midnight on it. Happy New Year!		