



Welcome to KDL's early literacy newsletter!

For fun early literacy activities that help kids get ready to read, check out our [website](#).

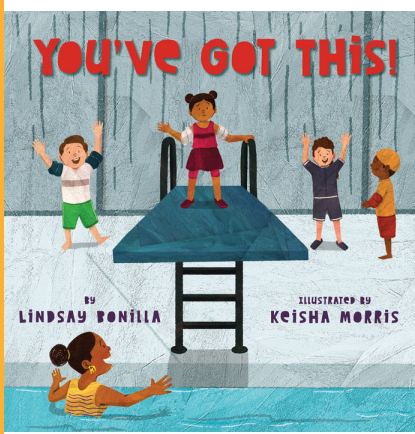
Get started reading and learning together with our simple and easy [1KB4K program](#).

View and print our [2024 Early Literacy Calendar](#).

## Explore the five ways to help make a CHILD GROW SMARTER

### LOVE

MAXIMIZE LOVE  
MANAGE STRESS



Follow along in the book *You've Got This!* by Lindsay Bonilla as various kids experience emotions. Each page is filled with rhyming text and collage art that describes diverse experiences. The illustrations by Keisha Morris show the common feelings that we all go through on a daily basis.

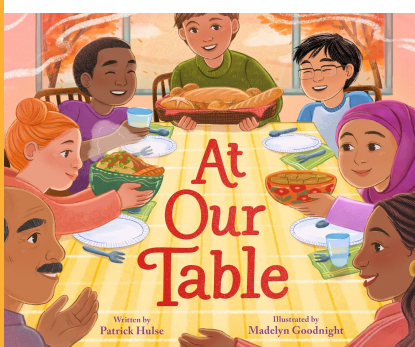
Spend some time talking about emotions. This can help empower kids to express themselves, building empathy and resilience. Encouraging these conversations helps kids handle their emotions with confidence and kindness.

For more books on this topic, check out *Feelings are Wild* by Sophy Williams and Gavin Scott, *Gray* by Laura Dockrill and Lauren Child and *Too Much! An Overwhelming Day* by Jolene Gutiérrez and Angel Chang.



### TALK

SING AND POINT



There is so much to learn from the world around us. Whether exploring nature or enjoying family, friends or other communities, our minds are encouraged to grow. This November, talk with your child about what you are grateful for and take time to notice the wonderful things around you.

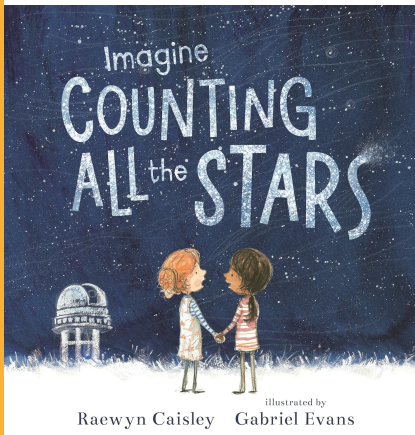
A book that'll make you grateful for family is *At Our Table* by Patrick Hulse and Madelyn Goodnight. Sparse yet lyrical verse invites readers to take a seat at a table alongside a diverse group of characters who eat, ponder and express gratitude for all they've been given. The repeated phrase "At our table there is room" allows readers to linger on smaller details that make the holidays special. *At Our Table* will help create dialogue around your holiday traditions, bringing up old memories and encouraging you to make new ones.

If you're looking for more titles to spark your little one's imagination, try these titles: *I'm Learning Everywhere* by Katlyne Mirabal and Timerie Blair, *How to Sing a Song* by Kwame Alexander and Randy Preston and *The Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt de la Peña and Christian Robinson.



### COUNT

GROUP AND COMPARE



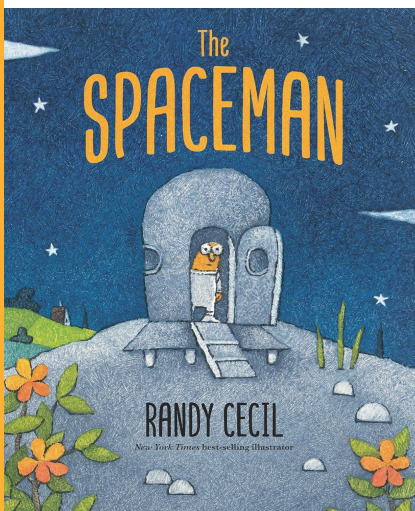
*Imagine Counting All the Stars* by Raewyn Caisley and Gabriel Evans creatively introduces multiple math concepts in a sweet story. Maddie loves thinking about parallel lines, the puzzles of half notes while practicing piano and finding symmetry while working in the garden. If only Maddie had a friend who marveled at math the way she does! Read the book to find out what ultimately brings about a friend for Maddie.

For additional books about sorting, organizing and other math concepts, try *The Animals Would Not Sleep* by Sara Levine and Marta Alvarez Miguéns, *Are You Big?* by Mo Willems and *What Is Math?* by Rebecca Kai Dotlich and Sachiko Yoshikawa.



### PLAY

EXPLORE THROUGH MOVEMENT AND PLAY



*The Spaceman* by Randy Cecil is a delightful take on seeing Earth with fresh eyes. A spaceman comes to yet another planet to collect, label and file soil samples, but when a fierce bird steals his spaceship, he is stranded in the terrifying unknown. But what is this place? There's beautiful red flowers and rocks and butterflies and ponds. "Had I truly once thought this planet ordinary?" thinks the spaceman.

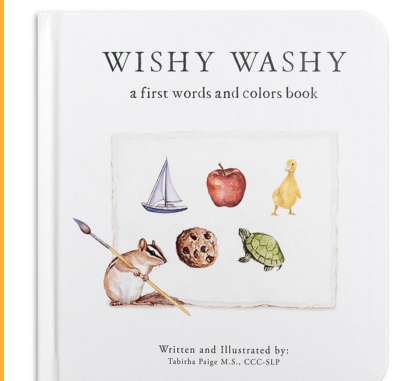
What other surprises await our visiting spaceman? With bright and vivid artwork, Cecil invites us to look at the tiny wonders of our world in a new light and admire the ordinary things that make our Earth extraordinary. Can you pretend to be a space traveler and explore your yard or a nearby park as if you've never seen it before? What do you think our spaceman would think of an acorn or the colors of fall leaves?

If you are interested in more stories of exploring unknown lands, try *Giant Island* by Jane Yolen and Doug Keith, *Beyond the Pond* by Joseph Kuefler or *The Search for the Giant Arctic Jellyfish* by Chloe Savage.



### READ

AND DISCUSS STORIES



For a gentle, whimsical read that focuses on sound and language, check out Tabitha Paige's *Wishy Washy: A First Words and Colors Book*. An artistic chipmunk is the guide through a host of colors, all associated with objects and animals that connect to children's lives and the world around them.

As you read the book with the child in your life, try helping the little chipmunk introduce each color by saying the book's refrain together, "Wishy Washy, Wishy Washy, Swish Swish." Point to each object and see if the child in your life can identify it. With older children, try adding descriptive words to each object. What words would they use to describe the "Blue Whale"? What story might they create with that character? Have fun talking together and enjoying the delicate illustrations of this book, perfectly sized for little hands.

Like this title? Try the other books in [Tabitha Paige's collection](#). For more artistic endeavors, try *Dot! Scribble! Go!* by Hervé Tullet and *Alma's Art* by Roda Ahmed and Anita Cheung.



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