



Welcome to KDL's early literacy newsletter!

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

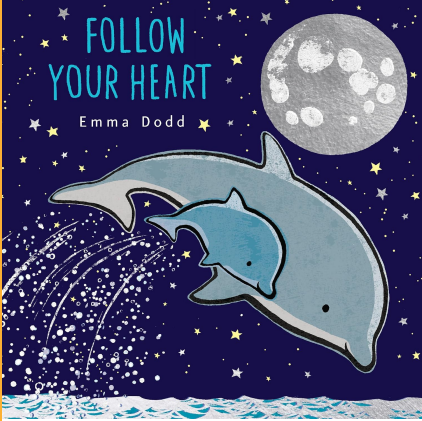
Get started reading and learning together with our simple and easy [1KB4K program](#).

View and print our [2025 Early Literacy Calendar](#).

Explore the five ways to help make a CHILD GROW SMARTER

LOVE

MAXIMIZE LOVE MANAGE STRESS

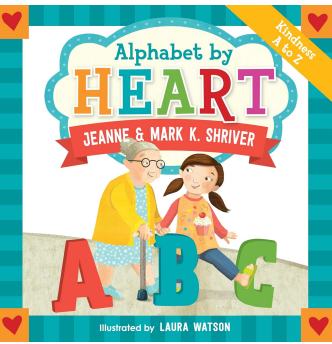


In [Follow Your Heart](#) by Emma Dodd, the power of love and inspiration jumps off the page through cheerful words and lively illustrations. The story follows a dolphin and her calf as they explore the sea together. The vibrant artwork also captures the strong bond between the two dolphins.

Dodd's illustrations radiate warmth and support, showing how a parent's love inspires children to be brave and true to themselves. The book also encourages children to trust their hearts and chase their dreams. Each page is a joyful reminder that a parent's love is the greatest force guiding children toward their brightest future.

Continue exploring love with your children by going on a walk together and exploring their surroundings. What interests them? Spend some time talking about what it means to follow their heart and how they can listen to it in everyday life.

For more books on love, check out [What Inspires](#) by Alison Hughes and Ellen Rooney, [Just What To Do](#) by Kyle Lukoff and Hala Tabboub and [Alphabet By Heart](#) by Jeanne and Mark K. Shriver and Laura Watson.



TALK

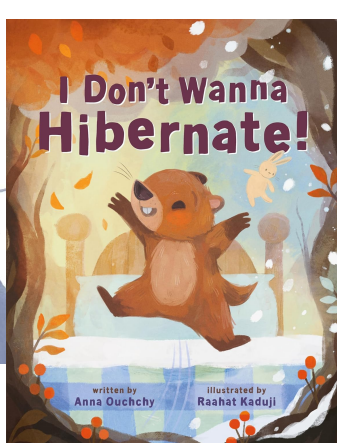
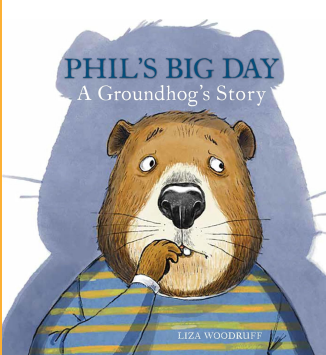
SING AND POINT



Now is the perfect time to curl up with a book and wait out the long winter months. While we're inside staying warm, what are the animals up to? That's cub's big question in [Winter Lullaby](#) by Dianne White and Ramona Kaulitzki. Why does he have to be the only cub that has to hibernate and miss out on all the fun winter activities? Mother Bear has the perfect answers to quell his inquiries and get her young one down for their long nap.

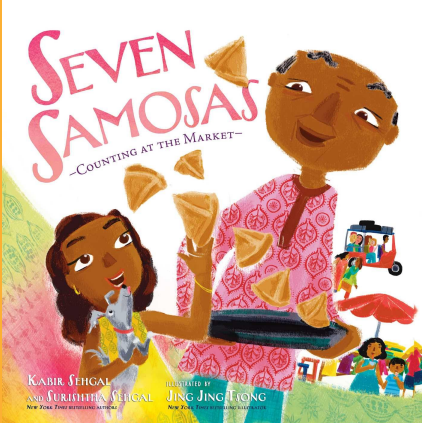
This book creates an opportunity for the children in your life to ask questions about winter animals and how they prepare for the season. After reading about little cub's winter nap, they might even embrace their own rest times!

Enjoy the rest of the wintry weather with these titles: [Phil's Big Day: A Groundhog's Story](#) by Liza Woodruff, [I Don't Wanna to Hibernate](#) by Anna Ouchchy and Raahat Kaduji and [Stopping by Jungle on a Snowy Evening](#) by Richard T. Morris.



COUNT

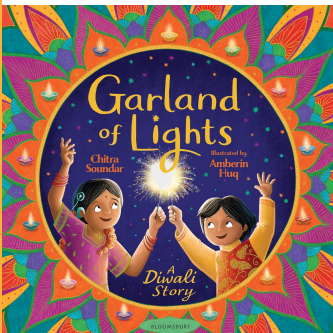
GROUP AND COMPARE



Surishtha and Kabir Sehgal and Jing Jing Tsong created a beautiful reverse counting book bursting with colors! [Seven Samosas](#) depicts Sona and her grandfather Dada as they shop for delicious treats in an outdoor market.

Beginning with "20 ladoos at this store," the pair pile more and more South Asian sweets into their arms as they visit different stands. With rhyming text and a pronunciation and description of each food, this book is a winner. What a mouth-watering celebration of food, fellowship and flavors!

Get ready to celebrate community with these counting books: [Garland of Lights](#) by Chitra Soundar and Amberin Huq, [Room for Everyone](#) by Naaz Khan and Mercè López and [One Sun and Countless Stars: A Muslim Book of Numbers](#) by Hena Khan and Mehrdokht Amini.



PLAY

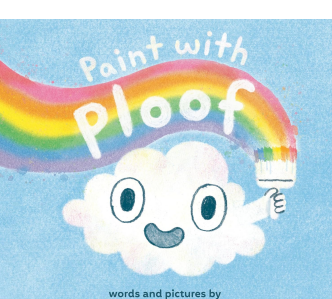
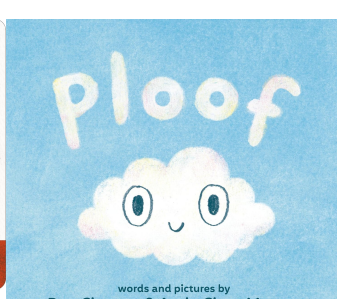
EXPLORE THROUGH MOVEMENT AND PLAY



[Play With Me](#) by Kat Chen and Lorraine Nam describes itself as a playdate in a book. Ellison and his rabbit are inviting us to play with them—let's see what fun we can have together!

This interactive board book has brightly colored cut-paper illustrations, and it offers delightful opportunities to play and talk together. Ellison is excited to hear your answers to his questions about which cookie you would like or what you see in the sky if you choose to accept the invitation to read and play!

If you enjoy this style of interactive stories, check out [Play Outside With Me](#) by Kat Chen and Lorraine Nam and [Ploof](#) and [Paint with Ploof](#) by Ben Clanton and Andy Chou Musser.



READ

AND DISCUSS STORIES



[Snow Rabbit, Spring Rabbit: A Book of Changing Seasons](#) by Il Sung Na illustrates the passage of seasons for young children. With a white rabbit as a guide, readers learn the different responses creatures have to winter and the wait for spring.

Take some time with the child in your life to linger over the pictures in this book. What animals can you spot and name? How are their responses to winter similar or different to your own? For a fun look at book design, explore the front and back covers of the book with the child in your life: You'll find winter rabbit on one side and spring rabbit on the other!

For more books about seasonal transitions, check out [Goodbye Winter, Hello Spring](#) by Kenard Pak, [All in a Year](#) by Chihiro Takeuchi and [In Between](#) by April Pulley Sayre.



Kent District Library

814 W River Center Dr NE Comstock Park, MI 49321

Phone: (616) 784-2007

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