



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 the [2026 Early Literacy Calendar](#). Español: [Calendario de Alfabetización Temprana](#).

Explore the five ways to help make a CHILD GROW SMARTER

LOVE

MAXIMIZE LOVE MANAGE STRESS



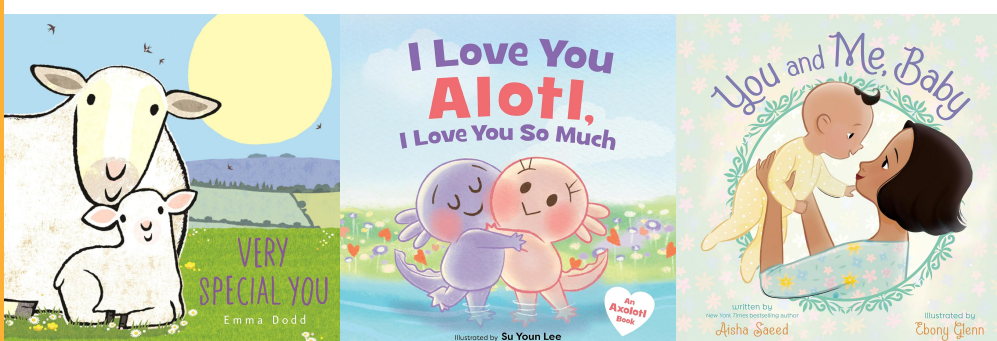
Where There Is Love: A Story in African Proverbs by Shauntay Grant and Leticia Moreno is a heartfelt picture book that celebrates how love grows through family.

The story follows a young girl spending the day with her grandmother as she learns meaningful African proverbs about kindness, patience and caring for others. Each proverb shows how love can be expressed through actions, relationships and the guidance of elders.

Moreno's vibrant illustrations bring warmth and life to the story with bright colors, expressive characters and joyful scenes of family connection. The images highlight everyday acts like cooking, laughing and gathering together, reinforcing the story's message about love. Together the storytelling and artwork create a touching reminder that love is learned, shared and passed down through generations.

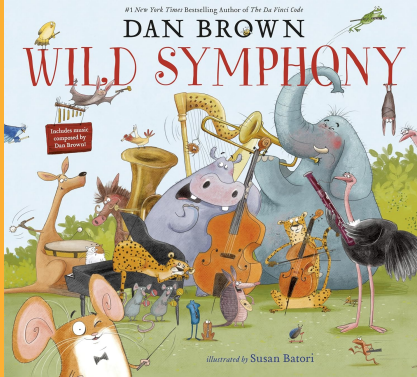
After reading the book, share a short proverb, saying or piece of advice that someone in your family often says. Children can draw a picture of a moment when they show love to someone such as helping, sharing or spending time together. You can then talk about how small, everyday actions help show love and kindness to others.

For more books on love, check out [Very Special You](#) by Emma Dodd, [I Love You A Lot!](#), [I Love You So Much](#) by Su Yoon Lee and [You and Me, Baby](#) by Aisha Saeed and Ebony Glenn.



TALK

SING AND POINT



Wild Symphony by Dan Brown is a vibrant and engaging picture book that blends storytelling with music, taking readers on a journey through the animal kingdom led by the cheerful maestro, Maestro Mouse. Each page introduces a new animal, such as a speedy cheetah or a graceful swan, paired with a short, rhythmic poem that highlights a positive character trait such as patience, kindness or curiosity.

Another delightful twist in this story is the mystery of how it will all end. Maestro Mouse hints that something big is coming, leaving little clues along the way for readers to discover. With each read, there's something new to notice and enjoy. Can you figure out the grand finale before it's revealed? And can you spot the animal quietly following Maestro Mouse throughout the story?

This wonderfully interactive book is full of clues, wonder and meaningful lessons along the way.

For more musical stories, check out [How to Sing a Song](#) by Kwame Alexander and Randy Preston, [Tap! Tap! Tap! Dance! Dance! Dance!](#) by Hervé Tullet and [Jam, Too?](#) by JaNay Brown-Wood and Jacqueline Alcántara.



COUNT

GROUP AND COMPARE



The Biggest Dog in the Book by Ben Lerwill and Mark Chambers is a playful picture book that explores size and comparison in a fun, over-the-top way. As the dogs get bigger and bigger, children can practice noticing differences like big, bigger and biggest. The bold illustrations and silly surprises keep kids engaged as the story grows.

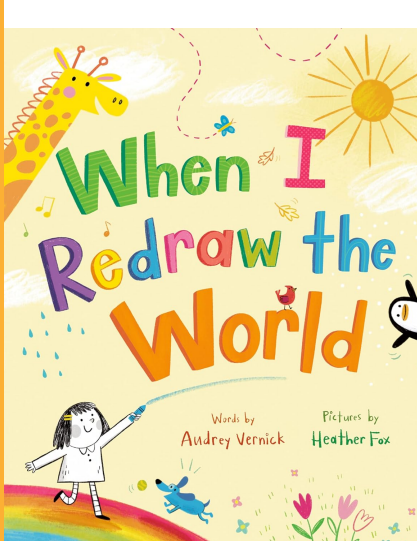
Caregivers can use this story to support early learning concepts such as comparison, descriptive language, and visual observation. Make it extra fun by turning everyday moments into a comparison game: spot the biggest shoe, the smallest spoon or the tallest tower of toys and talk about what makes them different.

For more paw-sitively magnificent comparison books check out [Frenchie's High and Low](#) by Stephanie Calmenson and Hollie Hibbert, [All the Dogs](#) by Nicola Kent and [The Same But Different Too!](#) by Karl Newson and Kate Kentley.



PLAY

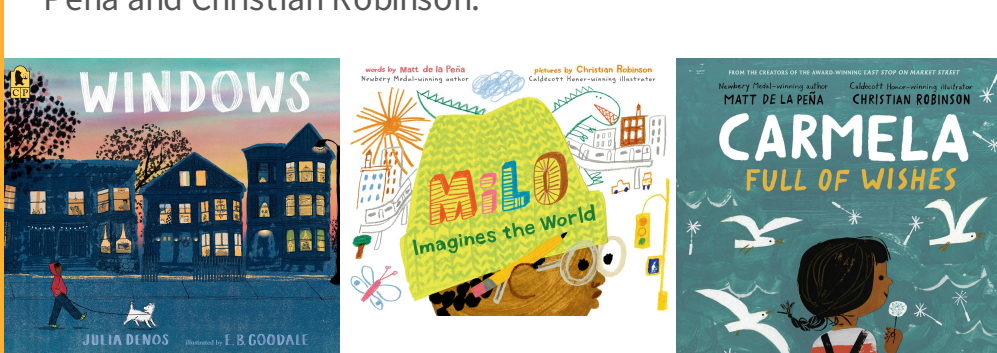
EXPLORE THROUGH MOVEMENT AND PLAY



What if you could redraw what the world looked like? Audrey Vernick and Heather Fox have a brand-new picture book imagining what our world could look like in [When I Redraw The World](#). With the repeated phrase "When I redraw the world," the opening of the book begins with a crucial, lovely hope: "No one will be hungry. And everyone will have a home. That seems important."

Once the important big-picture things are decided, we spend most of the story imagining helpful elephants, lion tea parties, easy-reach fruit trees and treehouse ice cream shops. What would you draw in your reimagined world? As the child in this story shows, you don't have to have everything figured out to start playfully drawing a better world.

For more imaginative looks on how the world *could* be, try [Windows](#) by Julia Denos and E.B. Goodale and [Milo Imagines the World](#) or [Carmela Full of Wishes](#), both by Matt de la Peña and Christian Robinson.



READ

AND DISCUSS STORIES

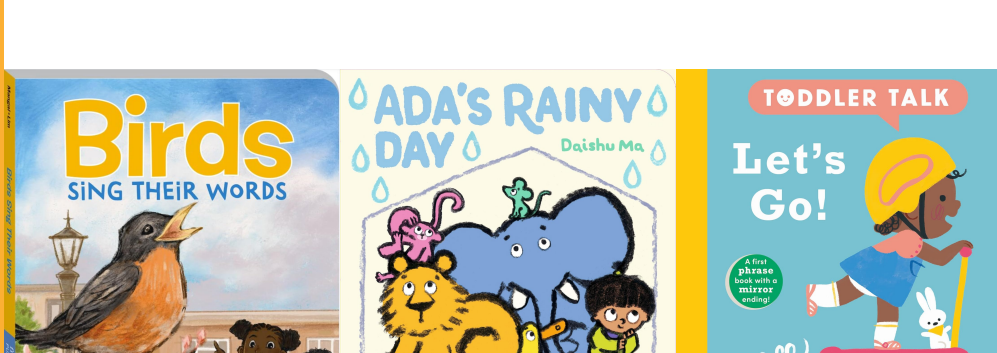


Spring! by Leslie Patricelli offers a bright and bouncy board book look at the exuberance of spring through the actions of two toddlers. Patricelli's friendly illustrations create movement and fun and ask the reader to join in the drama of discovering butterflies, bumblebees, frogs and squishy mud.

Try reading the book all the way through to enjoy the rhythmic text, then go back and enjoy the illustrations with the child in your life. Talk about the expressions on the toddlers' faces: While the preliminary emotion is pure joy, use other words like excited, playful, energetic and delighted to describe the adventurous attitude depicted. Introducing new words can help build children's understanding of vocabulary.

After reading the story together, try making your own list of "spring things" like Patricelli does at the end of the book. What things can the child in your life name? What new things might you point out to them and label?

For more spring board book reads, check out [Birds Sing Their Words](#) by Mélina Mangal and Stella Lim, [Ada's Rainy Day](#) by Daishu Ma and [Let's Go!](#) by Carolina Búzio.



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