



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



In *I'm So Happy You're Here: A Celebration of Library Joy* by Mychal Threets and Lorraine Nam, readers follow a child's visit to the library. The simple, reassuring text highlights how the space, the people and the routines help children feel at ease.

Lorraine Nam's soft colors and expressive characters show cozy corners, friendly faces and shared experiences between children and caregivers. The overall tone of the book is calm and inviting in a way that reflects the kind of environment libraries strive to offer every day.

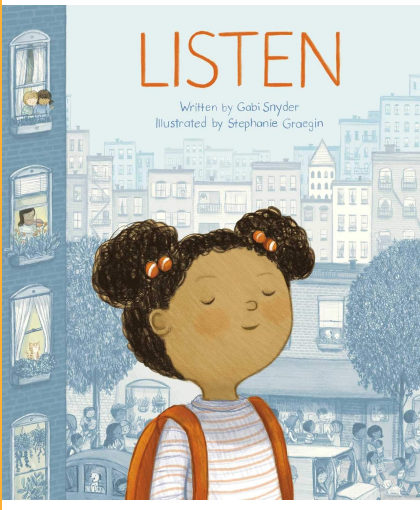
After reading together, make a visit to your local library. Take a slow walk through the library and invite your child to notice spaces that feel cozy, calm or friendly. Pause to sit in a favorite spot and talk about what makes it feel good to be there and who helps them feel welcome. This simple moment helps children recognize the caring environment around them and builds a sense of comfort and connection at the library.

For more books on love, check out *We All Belong* by Gianna Marino, *A City Dream* by B. Sharise Moore and Trudi-Ann Hemans and *Just Another Perfect Day* by Jillian Harris, Justin Pasutto and Morgan Goble.



TALK

SING AND POINT



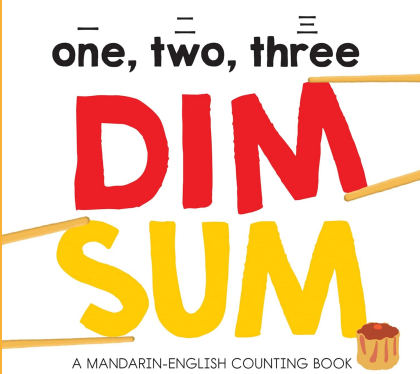
Listen by Gabi Snyder and Stephanie Graegin is a beautifully illustrated story that follows a young girl as she slows down in a busy world. Along the way, she learns to notice and appreciate the small things that make each moment special. Through gentle storytelling and captivating artwork, you and the little one in your life will be encouraged to take each moment as it comes and discover the wonder that surrounds you every day.

Looking for more stories that celebrate mindfulness and finding joy in everyday moments? Try *Are You Listening?* by Susan Verde and Juliana Perdomo, *Chooch Helped* by Andrea L. Rogers and Rebecca Lee Kunz and *The Boy with the Big, Big Energy* by Brittany Winn Lee and Jacob Souva.



COUNT

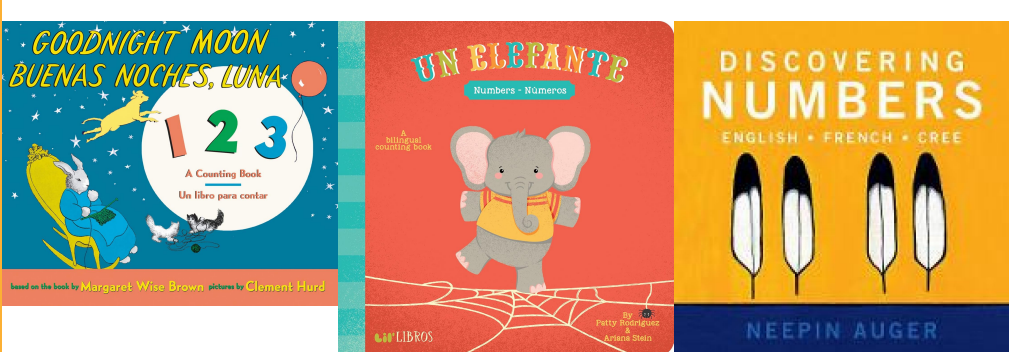
GROUP AND COMPARE



One, Two, Three Dim Sum: A Mandarin-English Counting Book by Rich Lo follows a playful journey through colorful dim sum dishes as children count from one to ten in both English and Mandarin, making early math feel like a fun food adventure.

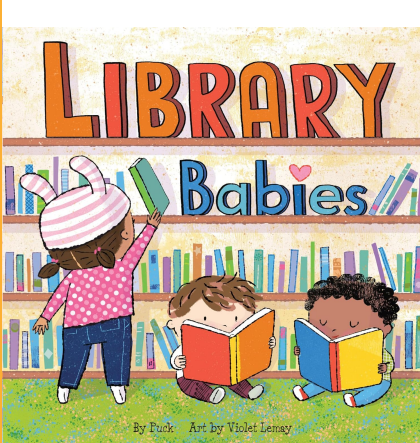
Each page pairs a number with a different dish, helping young readers build number recognition while also being introduced to another language. The bright, detailed illustrations keep children engaged and encourage them to count along. It's a great pick for caregivers who want to blend early math, culture and curiosity into storytime.

For more engaging board books that combine counting and language learning, try *Goodnight Moon/Buenas Noches Luna 1,2,3: A Counting Book* (bilingual English-Spanish) by Margaret Wise Brown and Clement Hurd, *Un Elefante: Numbers = Números* (bilingual English-Spanish) by Patty Rodríguez, Ariana Stein and Citlali Reyes and *Discovering Numbers: English • French • Cree* by Neepin Auger. All of these books support early number skills while gently introducing children to new languages through side-by-side translations and familiar counting patterns.



PLAY

EXPLORE THROUGH MOVEMENT AND PLAY



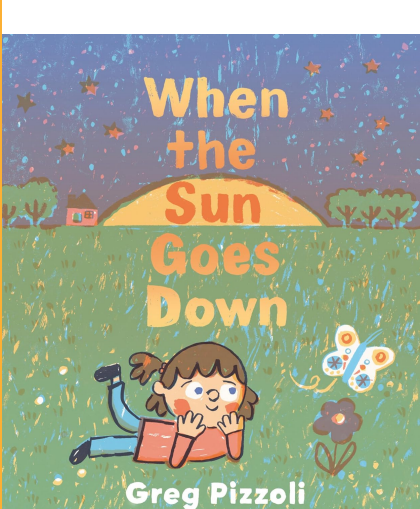
Library Babies by Puck and Violet Lemay features a playful look at exploring the local library. Our libraries are home to so many delightful books and stories, as well as [WonderKnook playspaces](#) to come and enjoy. Next time you're in the neighborhood, please come visit and say hello!

For more welcoming play, check out *All Are Welcome* and *Welcome to Our Classroom* by Alexandra Penfold and Suzanne Kaufman and *Ways to Welcome* by Linda Ashman and Joey Chou.



READ

AND DISCUSS STORIES



When the Sun Goes Down by Greg Pizzoli offers a melodic, rhythmic read centered around the familiar routine of winding down the day. A wondering narrative voice asks different creatures "Where do you go? Where do you go when the sun goes down?" With each page turn readers discover the safe place each creature goes at night.

Books that feature repetitive phrases allow children to anticipate and participate in storytelling. As you read this book with the child in your life, ask them to help you ask the question "Where do you go?" and have fun predicting where each creature goes before turning the page and finding out. For more story connections, try pretending to be each creature as you read along, ending the story with tucking the child in your life safe in their own bed.

For more books with repetition, visit some of the old and new classics of children's literature. Check out *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin Jr. and Eric Carle, *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury and *One Day in the Eucalyptus, Eucalyptus Tree* by David Bernstrom and Brendan Wenzel.



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