

Playing to Learn New Words

Play and have fun with words:

- Read a book with lots of made-up words like “How Do You Wokka-Wokka?” by Elizabeth Bluemle. Many books by Dr. Seuss also are excellent for this purpose. Try making up more words to go with the story.
- Silly poems are fun and can teach new vocabulary.
- Kids love riddles and jokes, which often use a “play on words.” Laugh along as you talk about the answer to the riddle or joke.
- Having fun with words helps your child become more conscious of words and happy to keep learning.



HUMPTY DUMPTY

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall.
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
All the king's horses and all the King's men
Could not put Humpty together again.

HICKORY DICKORY DOCK

Hickory Dickory Dock,
The mouse ran up the clock.
The clock struck one
And down he run.
Hickory Dickory Dock
Tick Tock!

SCARECROW, SCARECROW

Sing to the tune of “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star”

Scarecrow, scarecrow, turn around,
Scarecrow, scarecrow, touch the ground.
Stand up tall and blink your eyes.
Raise your hands up to the sky.
Scarecrow, scarecrow, touch your toes.
Scarecrow, scarecrow, tap your nose.
Swing your arms so very slow,
Now real fast to scare the crows.
Raise your head, jump up and down.
Now sit down without a sound.

Books to Read this Month

Check out these books at the library. If they are not available, ask the librarian for a recommendation.

FOR READERS AGES 0-3

Lola at the Library

by Anna McQuinn

The Little Red Cat Who Ran Away and Learned his ABCs the Hard Way

by Patrick McDonnell

FOR READERS AGES 3+

Now

by Antoinette Portis

Let's Scare Bear

by Yuko Katakawa



SEPTEMBER 2021

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.



SUNDAY

MONDAY



TUESDAY



WEDNESDAY

1 WRITING

Label things today.
Chair. Shoe. Door.
Tell your child what the labels say.

THURSDAY

2 PLAYING

Blow bubbles—this strengthens muscles needed for speech.



FRIDAY

3 TALKING

Discuss opposites. Show examples of big and small. Light and dark. Night and day.

SATURDAY

4 SINGING

Clap your hands to the beat of a favorite song.



5 COUNTING

Lace Cheerios onto a piece of yarn and then count them.



6 READING

Read a book or find information about insects that are active in late summer, like crickets or cicadas. Talk about how you can hear them at night.

7 WRITING

Write your to-do list together. Have your child check off each as it is completed.

8 PLAYING

Play alphabet search today. Take turns picking a letter and searching for it throughout the day.

9 TALKING

Talk about something your child hasn't experienced and explain what happens.

10 SINGING

How many ways can you move to the music? Play a favorite song and clap, march, spin, and tap.

11 COUNTING

Count how many red cars you see today. Tally up at the end of the day.

12 READING

Have a friends book club. Each friend brings a book for a story time.

13 WRITING

Pop bubble wrap or play with squirt toys to develop muscles needed for writing.

14 PLAYING

Tape a sheet of contact paper to the wall, sticky side out. See which toys stick and which toys do not.

15 TALKING

Make silly sounds today. Encourage your child to imitate you.



16 SINGING

Sing "Now it's bath time, now it's bath time, yes, it is" to the tune of "Frere Jacques."

17 COUNTING

Take a walk and count how many birds or squirrels you see.

18 READING

Visit the library and help your child select books to check out.



19 WRITING

Use cooked pieces of spaghetti to make shapes and letters.



20 PLAYING

Go on a scavenger hunt today. Look for things that start with the "p" sound, like a plate, a pan, and a pen.

21 TALKING

Take turns telling each other simple stories.

22 SINGING

Recite a nursery rhyme like "Humpty Dumpty." (Words are on the back. ➡)

23 COUNTING

Use blocks to measure how long something is. How many blocks long is your arm, your foot, etc.?

24 READING

Before you start reading a book look at the cover together and ask your child what they think will happen in the book. Discuss.

25 WRITING

Write your child's first name. Talk about the first letter of their name. Make the sound and say words that begin with the letter.

26 PLAYING

Sing "Scarecrow, Scarecrow" and do all the movements. (Words are on the back. ➡)

27 TALKING

Use family photos to tell different stories. Encourage your child to tell a story.

28 SINGING

Recite a nursery rhyme like "Hickory Dickory Dock." (Words are on the back. ➡)

29 COUNTING

Time how long it takes to walk one block. Show your child the time at the beginning and at the end.

30 READING

Relate the story in a book to your child's experiences. "Remember when you saw a red car?"

