

# PLAY & LEARN NEWSLETTER

May 2022 | Issue 5

## FIVE EARLY LITERACY PRACTICES

- **Singing:** slows down language so children can hear the smaller sounds in words.
- **Talking:** helps children learn oral language and how to express themselves.
- **Reading:** together (interactive reading) remains the single most effective way of getting children ready to read.
- **Writing:** begins by developing fine and gross motor skills. Along with reading, writing helps children understand that letters make up words and print has meaning.
- **Playing:** is a child's preferred mode of learning about the world around them. It also helps develop oral language and narrative skills.



Scan the QR code for  
a toddler song list  
from Spotify



### THIS MONTH'S FOCUS: Singing



Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library  
11960 S. Pulaski Alsip, IL 60803  
708-371-5666 ext. 140



# BOOK SUGGESTIONS

*If You're Happy and You Know It, Clap Your Hands*  
by John John Bajet

*Marc Brown's Playtime Rhymes: a Treasury for Families to Learn and Play Together*  
by Marc Tolon Brown

*Five Green and Speckled Frog: a Count-and-Sing Book*  
by Priscilla Burriss

*Sing, Don't Cry*  
by Angela Dominquez

*Canta, Rana, Canta = Sing, Froggie, Sing*  
by Carolyn Dee Flores

*Mary Had a Little Lamb*  
by Mary Ann Hoberman

*All You Need is Love*  
by John Lennon

*In My Life*  
by John Lennon



*Freedom, We Sing*  
by Amyra Leon

*If You're Groovy and You Know It*  
by Eric Litwin

*Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes*  
by Eric Litwin

*One Love*  
by Cedella Marley

*Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*  
by Jane Taylor

*Thanks a Lot*  
by Raffi

*The Monsters On the Bus*  
by Sesame Street

*Let's Sing a Lullaby with the Brave Cowboy*  
by Jan Thomas

*I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly*  
by Nadine Bernard Westcott

**PLAYFUL LEARNING LAB FOR KIDS**  
BY CLAIRE HEFFRON AND LAUREN DROBNJAK  
J370.155 HEFFRON



This book provides a number of fun activities by combining learning and playing for your child.

**Lab 42**, pictured to the left, helps children explore their listening skills. A suggestion from the book says to fill different paper towel tubes with different fillers and have the child guess what is in each paper towel tube.

## MATERIALS

→ Empty paper towel tubes  
→ Fillers (e.g. pebbles, beads, rice, bells, dry pasta, etc.)

→ Embellishments (e.g. decorative paper, markers, crayons, washi tape, stickers, etc.)

# LIBRARY OF THINGS



## Musical Instrument Set 2

(Pictured to the left)

- 1 Guiro tone block with mallet
- 2 Maracas
- 1 Tambourine
- 2 Cymbals
- 2 Triangles
- 1 Triangle stick
- 4 Jingle bells
- 4 Dance scarves

## Musical Instrument Set 1

- 1 Glockenspiel, 2 Wooden Mallets, 2 Maracas, 1 Tambourine, 1 Frog guiro, 1 Triangle, 1 Triangle Stick, 4 Dance scarves, 2 Instruction cards, 1 Sheet Music

These items are available for checkout with your library card. Please contact the Youth Services Desk if you have any questions about these items.

## ONLINE RESOURCES

SOME SUGGESTED SONGS TO LOOK FOR

### Hoopla

- Disney Magical Musical Passport
- Best of Raffi
- Baby Shark & More Kids Songs
- Cocomelon Essentials
- Pete the Cat
- The Best of the Laurie Berkner Band
- Nursery Rhymes by Cocomelon
- Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
- 100 Toddler Favorites
- Blippi Essentials

### Freegal

- Animal Songs for Kids
- Favorite Nursery Rhymes
- ABC & 123
- Best Nursery Rhymes and Songs for Kids
- Fun & Frolic Nursery Rhymes
- We're All Fruit Salad: the Wiggles Greatest Hits
- ABC Kids Favorites
- Hooplakidz Rhyme Time
- Wash Your Hands and More Healthy Habit Songs

- **Freegal: download 5 songs each week that you keep forever**
- **Hoopla: access 1000s of books, movies and music; 10 downloads a month**

**These resources are available with a valid AMPL library card.**

# MAY 2022

## Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1 WRITING</b> Play with play dough—it strengthens muscles needed for writing.	<b>2 PLAYING</b> Go on an outside scavenger hunt. Make a list (tree, car, flower, bird, bus, etc.) and check off the items as you see them.	<b>3 TALKING</b> Take turns saying as many words as you can that rhyme with May. 	<b>4 SINGING</b> Play talent show. Take turns singing and/or dancing.	<b>5 COUNTING</b> Go for a walk. Take two big steps. Take three large steps. Count how many steps from your door to the sidewalk.	<b>6 READING</b> Ask your child to “read” to you by telling you their own story based on pictures in a book.	<b>7 WRITING</b> Make a Mother’s Day card and have your child “sign” their name. Scribbles are ok!
<b>8 PLAYING</b> Play “Riddle Me.” <i>I’m green and grow on trees.            What am I?            Yes! I am leaves!</i>	<b>9 TALKING</b> Talk about feelings you felt today. What made you laugh?	<b>10 SINGING</b> Sing “The Farmer Plants the Seeds.” <i>(Words are on the back. ➡)</i>	<b>11 COUNTING</b> Sing “The Ants Go Marching.” <i>(Words are on the back. ➡)</i> 	<b>12 READING</b> Draw the pictures to a story on 4-5 small pieces of paper. Help your child put the papers in proper sequence to tell the story.	<b>13 WRITING</b> Draw a large alphabet. Have your child practice finger tracing while you say the letters out loud.	<b>14 PLAYING</b> Play a rhyming game. Choose a word and then come up with as many rhyming words as you can. Dog, frog, hog, log, Tree, see, me, knee.
<b>15 TALKING</b> Look for signs of spring. Go for a walk and talk about what you see. Point out new grass, birds, first flowers, leaf buds.	<b>16 SINGING</b> Sing a favorite song. Sing it fast. Sing it slow. Whisper it.	<b>17 COUNTING</b> Ask questions about what is heavier. <i>Does an orange or a grape weigh more? Is Mom’s shoe or your shoe heavier?</i>	<b>18 READING</b> Find out the details of your library’s summer reading program. 	<b>19 WRITING</b> Draw pictures together. Label the things you draw. 	<b>20 PLAYING</b> Go for a walk after dark. Pretend you are an explorer. Talk about what you see. 	<b>21 TALKING</b> Enunciate words today. <i>Would you like a ba-ba-nana? Banana begins with B! Can you close the d-d-d-door? Door begins with D!</i>
<b>22 SINGING</b> Play children’s songs. Sing and dance together. 	<b>23 COUNTING</b> Draw numbers on the sidewalk with chalk. Say them as you step on them.	<b>24 READING</b> Encourage your child to take the lead with reading. They can select the books and show you where to start.	<b>25 WRITING</b> Help your child begin to recognize words for a few common objects by labeling them. Shoe, Table, Door, Floor. 	<b>26 PLAYING</b> Set up an obstacle course and give your child directions. <i>Run to the park bench. Jump over the stick. Touch the ground. Come back to me.</i> 	<b>27 TALKING</b> When reading a book today stop before you get to the end and ask your child what they think will happen next.	<b>28 SINGING</b> Your: ABCDEFG Child: HIJKLMN OP Continue taking turns to finish the alphabet. 
<b>29 COUNTING</b> Count the number of eggs in a carton. Explain that 12 items together is also called a dozen.	<b>30 READING</b> Act something out from the story you are reading.	<b>31 WRITING</b> Make a list of things you liked best about this month.				

Registration  
Required...



# Sensory Day of Play

Family Event: Birth-14 Years with Caregiver  
(Best for Those under 9 Years)

Saturday, June 11 from 11:00am-2:00pm

Join us for our first Sensory Day of Play.

Children will experience play through multisensory activities. Children of all ages will enjoy this interactive play day! Registration begins Saturday, May 28.

When registering, please choose the best time slot for your family:

11:00 am - 12:00 pm; 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm;

OR 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Each family will receive a sensory goodie bag so you can continue the fun at home.

Please note: 11am-12pm is reserved for families who have children with sensory processing sensitivities.

