

# APRIL 2025

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1 WRITING</b> Go for a walk then draw the story of your walk together.	<b>2 PLAYING</b> Take turns pretending to be animals. Bark like a dog. Wriggle like a snake.	<b>3 TALKING</b> Say a favourite nursery rhyme but change an important word to a silly word.	<b>4 SINGING</b> Sing <i>Rain, Rain, Go Away</i> .  (Words on back.)	<b>5 COUNTING</b> Talk about big and little. Find and talk about different sized items.
<b>6 READING</b> Visit the library (in person or online) and check out books about Spring. 	<b>7 WRITING</b> Draw a picture of the sky and clouds. Be sure to ask your child to 'sign' their name. 	<b>8 PLAYING</b> Take turns playing follow the leader. The leader performs actions the others must follow.	<b>9 TALKING</b> Use new describing words. Say 'enormous' for 'big' and 'wonderful' for 'great.'	<b>10 SINGING</b> Sing <i>Row, Row, Row Your Boat</i> during bath time.  (Words on back.)	<b>11 COUNTING</b> Cut a piece of toast in half. Say: "Now we have two pieces the same size." 	<b>12 READING</b> Help your child stack blocks as high as possible. Count each block as you add it.
<b>13 WRITING</b> Make a dot using cotton swabs and paint to develop fine motor skills.	<b>14 PLAYING</b> Place a cutout of a circle, square, triangle on the floor. Call out the shapes to step on.	<b>15 TALKING</b> Talk about your day and their day.	<b>16 SINGING</b> Sing <i>I Hear Thunder</i> .  (Words on back.)	<b>17 COUNTING</b> Count to five as you hop up and down five times. Count five small steps and five big steps.	<b>18 READING</b> Teach letter sounds by playing <i>I Spy</i> . "I spy something that begins with S. Yes. A spoon."	<b>19 WRITING</b> Experiment with pencils, crayons and markers on different types of paper.
<b>20 PLAYING</b> Go on a circle hunt. Make a list of all the circle-shaped items you find today. 	<b>21 TALKING</b> Print the word of the day and talk about its meaning. Use it several times today.	<b>22 SINGING</b> Make up a song about something familiar or interesting to your child. 	<b>23 COUNTING</b> Count in nature. How many birds, rocks, flowers and trees do you see?	<b>24 READING</b> Help your child find letters printed on pieces of paper hidden around the room.	<b>25 WRITING</b> Write your child's first name in big letters. Colour, decorate and talk about each letter.	<b>26 PLAYING</b> Put your socks on your hands and pretend they are puppets. Introduce them to each other.
<b>27 TALKING</b> Go on a listening walk. Listen for birds, wind, traffic. Talk about what you hear.	<b>28 SINGING</b> Take turns singing bits of favourite songs to each other.	<b>29 COUNTING</b> Line up the family from shortest to tallest, oldest to youngest and vice-versa.	<b>30 READING</b> Help your child notice words on street signs, food cartons, billboards and more.			

## Talking is one of the best ways for children to learn new words.

Speak to your child often during the day and try to use many different words to express your ideas. Children love to imitate, and they will try to imitate your speech. Chances to chat include while you are getting dressed in the morning, eating breakfast, riding in the car, walking from the car to a store, playing together, doing chores, taking a bath, going to bed, and while saying goodnight. Ask lots of open-ended questions, those that require more than a yes or no answer.

### SOCK PUPPETS

*Supplies Needed:*

- Crayons or markers
- An old sock, no longer worn
- Yarn or ribbon
- Glue stick

*Directions:*

1. Use your crayons and markers to create a face on the bottom of your sock.
2. Use glue and yarn or ribbon to make hair. You can also draw your puppet's hair.
3. Colour the bottom part of your puppet to make clothes.
4. Put your hand inside the sock and put on a puppet show.

### ROW ROW YOUR BOAT

Row, row, row your boat  
Gently down the stream  
Merrily merrily, merrily, merrily  
Life is but a dream

### I HEAR THUNDER

*Sing to the tune "Frère Jacques"*

I hear thunder, I hear thunder.

*(Pound hands gently on floor or lap)*

Listen, don't you? Listen, don't you?

*(Cup hand to ear)*

Pitter, patter raindrops; pitter, patter raindrops;

*(Wiggle fingers in falling motion in front of face)*

I'm wet through,

*(Shake body)*

So are you!

### RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY

Rain, Rain,

Go away;

Come again,

Another day;

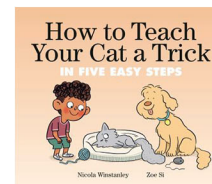
Little [child's name]  
wants to play



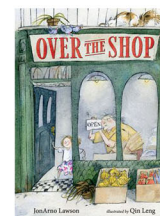
## Books to Read this Month



**Only the Trees Know**  
Jane Whittingham



**How to Teach Your  
Cat A Trick**  
Nicola Winstanley



**Over the Shop**  
JonArno Lawson

## Even More...

Looking for more ways to help build literacy skills?



**Join a PA Day Event on April 4:**  
[hpl.ca/pa-day](http://hpl.ca/pa-day)



**Attend a Storytime:**  
[hpl.ca/storytime-april](http://hpl.ca/storytime-april)