

# Ruby's Report

Activities for Babies & Toddlers  
from Ruby the Raccoon and the  
Saint Paul Public Library



Welcome Parents and Caregivers! - The activities, rhymes, and songs in this newsletter are designed not only to be fun for you to read and explore with your child, but also to be tools for building your child's speaking and reading skills. Enjoy!



## Ruby's Day



It's February, and time for Ruby to make valentines for Valentine's Day! Valentines are cards that we give to other people to tell them how much we love them and how much they mean to us. For this project, Ruby used paper, crayons, glue, stickers, and scissors. She always asks for help from a grownup to cut paper with scissors, but she's learning how to glue, draw with crayons, and stick stickers all by herself. Can you see her working away on her valentines in her photo? Maybe you can find some paper and art supplies at your house and make your own valentines! Who would you like to give them to?

**Literacy Note for Grown-Ups** - Craft projects like making valentines are a great way to encourage creativity and problem solving in children, both of which will help your child when learning to read.



Ruby is a Folkmanis puppet who loves books, songs, the library, and learning new things.

## Ruby's Nature Corner

**Activity Note for Grownups** - Try setting up a short, outdoor, valentine-themed scavenger hunt for your toddler by hanging paper hearts in trees or drawing hearts in the snow for your child to find.

Ruby went on a scavenger hunt outside recently and looked for four things: a bird, a stick, an icicle, and some snow. Guess what? Someone had drawn a heart in the snow, and she found that too! Hearts remind us of how much we love other people on Valentine's Day. Maybe you and a grownup can go outside and have your own scavenger hunt. Have fun exploring!

## Ruby's Rhyme



**Literacy Note for Grownups** - The following counting rhyme offers a fun opportunity to introduce young children to numbers, counting, and sequencing - all foundations of numerical literacy. For infants, you can wiggle each of their fingers or toes as you count. Toddlers can be encouraged to point to their own fingers or toes. And if you cut out nine paper hearts, your children will have fun counting them as you recite the rhyme together.

Let's count valentines: 1, 2, 3.

Let's count valentines, all from me!

Let's count valentines: 4, 5, 6.

Let's count valentines, match and mix!

Let's count valentines: 7, 8, 9.

Let's count valentines. I'm glad you're mine!

Can you find  
a crayon, a  
ribbon tied in a  
bow, a heart,  
and a tree made  
of hearts on this  
page?