



Pre-Literacy Activities

May 2020

Help your child get ready to read and write with one fun and simple activity a day!

Santa Clara County
Library District
www.sccl.org



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 National Mother Goose Day! Read nursery rhymes together.	2 VISIT THE ONLINE LIBRARY! Check out an eBook about Mexican culture for Cinco de Mayo!
3 Look around for things that start with "B" (for Bees)!	4 Tell someone your favorite things about spring.	5 Happy Cinco de Mayo! Look at a Mexican flag. Find 5 red, 5 white & 5 green things.	6 Look through a magazine for things that start with a certain letter. Cut them out & paste them on paper.	7 Play <i>Vehicle Charades</i> . Guess which vehicle family members are pretending to be!	8 Draw a picture of what you can see out your window.	9 Go on a bug hunt & sing a bug song like <i>Shoo Fly</i> , <i>The Ants Go Marching</i> , or <i>Itsy Bitsy Spider</i>
10 Happy Mother's Day! Make a handprint flower card for a mom in your life!	11 How many toes are on your right foot? Read that many books today!	12 Talk about the spine of the book. Compare it to the spine in our body.	13 Play car wash with toys in the sink, or wash your bike, scooter or play car outside.	14 National Dance Like a Chicken Day! Do the Chicken Dance!	15 Play a game of hide-and-seek.	16 Love a Tree Day! Take a walk & count the types of trees you see.
17 Draw shapes on the sidewalk with chalk.	18 Read a joke & practice telling it to your family!	19 Make up a story about bees, flowers or fairies (or all 3!) Tell it to a family member or friend.	20 Count the number of jumping jacks you do.	21 Grab some items & ask questions about what is heavier/lighter: <i>Quarter or dollar bill?</i> <i>Pencil or Q-tip?</i>	22 At bedtime ask your child what they liked best about their day.	23 Play catch!
4 <i>Here is the beehive. Where are the bees? (make fist) Hidden away where nobody sees Watch & you'll see them come out of the hive... 1,2,3,4,5! Buzzzzzzz (each finger out, fly them)</i>	25 Draw hopscotch with chalk outside. Talk about the numbers as you write them.	26 National Paper Airplane Day! Make one & measure how far it can fly.	27 Collect some rocks. Organize, compare & describe them with lots of adjectives.	28 Play a one-syllable word rhyming game. Take turns thinking of words that rhyme: rock, walk, shock.	29 What superpower would you want, & what would you use it to do?	30 VISIT SCCLD ONLINE: Attend our Facebook Live Storytime @ 11:00am!



Playing



Reading



Writing



Talking



Singing

Pre-Literacy Practices

Five ways to help your child get ready to read:



Singing



Sing every chance you get! Singing slows down language and helps children hear the smaller sounds in words. Songs expose children to words they don't hear in everyday language. This vocabulary boost helps them when they learn to read.



Reading

Curl up with a book at bedtime, or any time. Keep books everywhere: in the car, stroller, and bath tub. Role model the love of reading together. Most kids who have been read 1,000 books by the time they start Kindergarten are ready to learn to read.



Talking

Even newborns benefit from lots of talking! Tell stories, talk about the books you read, use new words, start conversations. Ask open-ended questions, giving children time to think and answer. Talking back and forth uses four parts of the brain; it takes young children extra time to form responses.

Playing



Play is the “work” of children. Pretend play builds vocabulary, stretches the imagination, and nurtures pre-reading skills. Symbolic play (This box is a car! A boat! A train!) is the same type of thinking that allows them to understand that a picture or the written word represents a real thing.

Writing



Play with a variety of writing tools. Color, draw, scribble, and write with crayons, chalk, or sticks in dirt or sand. Writing activities help children understand that writing and print has meaning. Developing fine motor skills prepares children for writing.

