



# Pre-Literacy Activities

# August 2020

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

Santa Clara County  
Library District  
scclld.org



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Did you complete our <b>Summer Reading Program</b>? Learn how to claim your prize here: <a href="http://scclld.org/summer2020/">scclld.org/summer2020/</a></p>						<p>1 <b>National Mustard Day!</b> Go on a walk &amp; look for things that are <b>yellow</b>.</p>
<p>2 Take turns hiding a stuffed animal &amp; giving clues where to find it.</p>	<p>3 Write the numbers 1-9. Let your child choose a number. Spin around that number of times. Repeat!</p>	<p>4 Write a note to your child. Tell them where to find it. Point to each word as you read it.</p>	<p>5 Explain the process of a task to your child as you do it: folding laundry, washing dishes, or caring for pets.</p>	<p>6 Use clay or play dough to make letters.</p>	<p>7 Look around for things that start with "S" (for Sun, Sand, &amp; Surf!)</p>	<p>8 <b>VISIT SCCLD ONLINE:</b> Attend our Facebook Live Storytime @ 11:00am! <a href="http://www.facebook.com/SCCLD/">www.facebook.com/SCCLD/</a></p>
<p>9 <b>National Book Lovers Day!</b> Ask people what their favorite book is, &amp; why!</p>	<p>10 Build a tower of blocks as high as you can until they fall over.</p>	<p>11 Get pillow cases, climb inside, &amp; do a silly summer family sack race!</p>	<p>12 Read a rhyming book &amp; point out some words that rhyme. Think of some more rhyming words!</p>	<p>13 Take "selfies" showing different emotions. Talk about the feelings you express in each photo.</p>	<p>14 Dip a q-tip in paint &amp; write numbers or letters.</p>	<p>15 <b>World Honey Bee Day!</b> <b>VISIT SCCLD ONLINE:</b> Check out a book or eBook about bees. Ask us how!</p>
<p>16 <b>National Tell a Joke Day!</b> Tell jokes to friends &amp; family!</p>	<p>17 <b>I LOVE My Feet Day!</b> Trace your feet on a sheet of paper, &amp; color them!</p>	<p>18 Learn how to say "Hello" in another language.</p>	<p>19 What happens when you put paper in a bowl of water?</p>	<p>20 Write numbers in a tray of flour with your finger.</p>	<p>21 Find 5 oval-shaped things in the kitchen.</p>	<p>22 Throw a pretend birthday party for a stuffed animal!</p>
<p>23 Say &amp; Touch each Toe: <b>This Little Piggy ...went to market</b> <i>This little piggy stayed home</i> <i>This little piggy had roast beef</i> <i>This little piggy had none</i> <i>And this little piggy cried</i> <i>"Wee, wee, wee" all the way home!</i></p>	<p>24 While cleaning up toys together, sort them by color, shape, size or type.</p>	<p>25 Make an obstacle course with pillows, blankets, toys; whatever you have around the house.</p>	<p>26 <b>National Dog Day!</b> Read dog books &amp; pretend to be one: <i>Widget</i>; <i>Bark</i>, <i>George</i>; <i>Dog's Colorful Day</i>. <i>Pretend to be a dog!</i></p>	<p>27 Sit facing your child cross-legged. Hold their hands. Alternate leaning forward &amp; backward singing "Row, Row, Row Your Boat".</p>	<p>28 Sing the alphabet song together. Jump each time you hear a letter in your name.</p>	<p>29 Look for the first letter of your child's name in a book. Count how many times you see it.</p>
<p>30 <b>National Beach Day!</b> Pretend you are at the beach. Lay out a towel, "swim" in the ocean, have a picnic lunch.</p>	<p>31 <b>National Trail Mix Day!</b> Make some with what you have: raisins, nuts, seeds, granola, dried fruit, etc.</p>					



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.

