



Pre-Literacy Activities

January 2021

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



Santa Clara County Library District
www.scclcd.org



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Happy New Year! Talk about your New Year Resolution.	2 Take a walk & look for things that start with "J" (for January)!
3 Draw a picture of something you look forward to doing this year.	4 National Spaghetti Day! Make spaghetti art, or help make spaghetti to eat!	5 Play "Red Light, Green Light."	6 Think of words that rhyme with "cold".	7 Do the "Penguin Pokey!" Put your beak, flippers, feet, whole self...in & out, and waddle all around!	8 National Bubble Bath Day! Make bubble beards, hair, earrings, etc., in the tub.	9 Make a bed for a stuffy or doll out of a box. Pretend it is bedtime.
10 Make art with glue & items you find lying around the house.	11 Look for the letters in your name on food boxes or bags from your kitchen.	12 Read a book with word/ thought bubbles & point them out. (Try Elephant & Piggie books by Willems!)	13 Make a road with blocks. Drive a toy car on the road. Add a bridge or tunnel!	14 Look at family photos. Talk about relationships, where they live, what they are doing, etc.	15 National Hat Day! Wear or make a fun or silly hat today! Look up some ideas online.	16 VISIT SCCLD ONLINE Request a book or eBook about a hibernating animal. Ask us how!
17 Play Veterinary Hospital with your stuffed animals.	18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day! Do or say something kind or helpful.	19 National Popcorn Day! Make popcorn & do simple counting & math with the pieces.	20 Go on a "shape walk." Look for shapes in the world around you.	21 Play animal freeze dance. Stop the music & call out an animal to act like! Then dance again...& repeat with another animal.	22 Pretend the floor or a bed is the ocean or a lake. What animals are in there? What activities can you do?	23 VISIT SCCLD ONLINE Attend our Facebook Live Storytime @ 11:00am! www.facebook.com/SCCLD/
24 Make a collage with pictures ripped or cut from magazines.	25 Opposite Day! Talk about opposites: in/out, up/down, happy/sad. Say "Good Morning" at	26 What animals live in the forest? Talk about their sounds & what they eat.	27 Pick a book with a blue cover. Read it together & talk about what you thought of the book.	28 Draw a face. Show how by changing the mouth, eyes, or eyebrows, the emotion changes.	29 Make a list of things you will do today. Cross each off as you complete it.	30 Make snowmen or snowwomen out of cotton balls & glue.
31 Finger paint with yogurt.	bedtime. Say "Goodbye!" when you mean "Hello!"					



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.

