

December 2024 Newsletter



Dear Caregiver,

Welcome to our 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten monthly newsletter! Each month you'll find book lists, songs and rhymes, and early literacy tips to share with your baby or young child. On page 2, find a printable calendar with an activity or reading suggestion for every day of the month! Happy reading!

Librarian Reads

The Mitten by Jan Brett

Christmas in the Barn by Margaret Wise Brown

Llama Llama Jingle Bells by Amanda Dewdney

Winter is Here by Kevin Henkes

Spot's Snowy Day by Eric Hill

Bea in the Nutcracker by Rachel Isadora

All-of-a-Kind Family Hannukah by Emily Jenkins

Charlotte and the Nutcracker by Charlotte Nebres

The Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Sleigh!
by Mo Willems

Rhyme Time

A song or rhyme with simple motions.

Where is Brown Bear?

Tune of "Where is Thumpkin?"

Where is brown bear? (shrug hands)

Where is brown bear?

Here I am! (thumbs up)

Here I am!

How are you this winter?

Very tired, thank you. (yawn)

Go to sleep. (hand "pillow" to head)

Go to sleep.

Ready to Read Create a culture of reading in your home and get your child ready to read by incorporating the 5 Practices of Early Literacy into your daily routines. It's easy and fun!

Read — Encourage extended family members to read together during holiday gatherings.

Write — Have your child help bake and decorate a favorite holiday treat. Rolling out dough, using a piping bag, and adding sprinkles are delicious fine motor skills!

Sing — Share your favorite holiday tunes with your child. Sing in the car while you look at twinkle lights, go caroling in the neighborhood, or just have a sing-a-long at home.

Talk — Talk about your family's holiday traditions and how they came to be.

Play — The holidays bring disruptions to schedules and routines, plus new experiences, foods, and relatives. Role play upcoming scenarios so your child knows what to expect.

Daily Fun with Your Little One!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1 Reading It's Rosa Parks Day. Celebrate this civil rights icon by reading <i>I am Rosa Parks</i> by Brad Meltzer.	2 Play Go outside and make a snow angel with your child.	3 Stories It's Roof Over Your Head Day. Ask your child to tell a story about how he would redesign your house to be his dream house.	4 Writing It's Sock Day. Give your child some crayons and paper and ask her to design a seasonal pair of socks.	5 Math It's Bathub Party Day. Give your child a bath and ask him to count the number of bath toys in the tub with him.	6 Play Create a pillow fort with your child. What does she want to call this fort?	7 Songs If a snowman came to life, what song would she sing?	
8 Science It's Pretend to be a Time Traveler Day. Ask your child what time period she would like to travel to and why.	9 Stories Tell your child a story about a holiday tradition your family has.	10 Reading It's App Day. Use the reading app "Novel Effect" to bring a story to life with your child.	11 Writing Lay out flour in a pan and ask your child to write the alphabet out with her finger in the "snow."	12 Rhymes It's Gingerbread House Day. Ask your child to come up with as many words as she can that rhyme with bread and house.	13 Sounds It's Violin Day. Search YouTube for famous violin performances and ask your child how she feels when listening to them.	14 Play It's Monkey Day. Jump around the house with you child acting like a monkey.	
15 Math It's Cupcake Day. Before eating a cupcake with sprinkles, ask your child to count how many sprinkles are on the cupcake.	16 Rhymes Ask your child to come up with as many words as he can that rhyme with snow.	17 Science It's Wright Brothers Day. Show your child how to make a paper airplane and see how far you can make it fly.	18 Writing It's Twin Day. Ask your child to draw of picture of themselves with a twin doing her favorite activity together.	19 Sounds Listen to Carol of the Bells with your child and ask him to identify what his favorite part of the song is.	20 Stories Ask your child to tell a story about a reindeer and polar bear who are lost in the north pole. What do they find along the way?	21 Science It's the winter solstice. Go outside in the dark with a flashlight and explain how every day for the next six months will have more light.	
22 Reading Read one of your favorite holiday books to your child.	23 Math It's Roots Day. Make a family tree with your child and count the number of cousins, aunts, uncles, and grandparents she has.	24 Writing Help your child draw a portrait of her entire extended family.	25 Math Count how many holiday songs play on the radio during a drive.	26 Writing It's Thank You Note Day. Help your child write a thank you note for a gift he received.	27 Stories Ask your child to tell a story about a world where all the snowflakes were candy bars and milkshakes.	28 Rhymes It's Card Playing Day. Ask your child to come up with as many words as she can that rhyme with card.	
29 Science Fill a pan with fresh fallen clean snow and bring it inside. See how long it takes to completely melt.	30 Reading Pick out a few of your child's favorite books and find a cozy spot for a story time together.	31 Play It's New Year's Eve. Pretend that the clock just struck midnight and celebrate the excitement of the new year!	<p>Help your child get ready to learn to read!</p> <p>Each day features a fun activity that will help your child build pre-reading skills. Activities are color-coded by skill. Ask your children's librarian for more ideas on how to promote early literacy skills with daily activities at home.</p>				 



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