

JANUARY 2026

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 WRITING Draw the numbers 2026 and color them with your child. Talk about the new year.	2 PLAYING Play 'Riddle Me.' <i>I'm white and cold and fun to play in. What am I? Yes! Snow!</i> Take turns asking riddles.	3 TALKING Have a conversation about winter. Ask your child, "What is your favorite thing about winter?" Share your favorite thing too.
4 SINGING Sing "The Rhyming Word" song. <i>(Words are on the back.)</i>	5 COUNTING Weigh your child and write it here _____. Save the calendar and measure again in June.	6 READING Visit the library and check out a book. 	7 WRITING With your child, write (and talk about) important dates on a 2026 calendar.	8 PLAYING Create a small obstacle course and give your child directions. <i>Go around the chair, go over the book, pick up the spoon, turn around and come back.</i>	9 TALKING Talk about colors. Ask your child what their favorite color is and share your favorite color. Talk about things in those colors.	10 SINGING Pick a song your child is familiar with and act it out while it is playing.
11 COUNTING Measure your child's height and write it here _____. Save the calendar and measure again in June.	12 READING Use your finger to follow along with the words as you read aloud to your child today.	13 WRITING With your child, write "Birthday" on each day in 2026 that is the birthday of a family member. Talk about what you are doing.	14 PLAYING Play 'Follow the Leader.' Do things and ask your child to do the same. <i>Touch your head, Turn around, Sit down.</i>	15 TALKING Talk about food. <i>Which food do you each think is the most delicious? What do you want to have for dinner?</i>	16 SINGING Make up silly songs about everyday activities. <i>This is the way we make the bed, make the bed, make the bed. This is the way we brush our teeth, etc.</i>	17 COUNTING Count snacks. <i>How many crackers are there?</i>
18 READING Be a reading role model. Let your child catch you reading a book, a newspaper or a magazine.	19 WRITING Write a list of things to do today. Have your child check off each item as it is completed.	20 PLAYING Go on a scavenger hunt. <i>Look for things that begin with S. Shoe, sock, soap.</i> 	21 TALKING Take out a few ice cubes. Put them in separate small bowls. Help your child place them around your home, including outside. Talk about which melts first.	22 SINGING Sing a favorite song in a loud voice and then a quiet voice.	23 COUNTING Measure your feet day! Line up all the family's shoes and boots. Whose are biggest? The smallest?	24 READING Read a book about winter. You can find one at the library.
25 WRITING Draw the outline of your child's hand on a piece of paper. Write the date and have your child "sign" the drawing. Save it.	26 PLAYING Let's dance! Play favorite songs that will inspire your child to do different things like jump and spin around.	27 TALKING Say the nursery rhyme "Hey Diddle Diddle." <i>(Words are on the back.)</i> <i>Talk about how funny it is. The cow jumps over the moon? The little dog laughs?</i>	28 SINGING Take turns singing parts of the ABC song. Sing it fast and sing it slow. 	29 COUNTING Say the "Five Little Snowmen" rhyme. <i>(Words are on the back.)</i>	30 READING Ask your child questions while you read to them today. What do you think will happen next? Where did the little dog go? 	

You have been your child's teacher from the day he or she was born.

You know more about your child than anyone else, and you are in the best position to help your child get ready to read. Whether your child is four days old or four years old, it is not too early or too late to help him or her develop pre-reading skills. You can help your child learn language and other early literacy skills with simple and fun activities like those in this calendar.

THE RHYMING WORD SONG

Do you know two rhyming words, rhyming words, rhyming words?
Do you know two rhyming words? They sound a lot alike.
Cat and bat are rhyming words, rhyming words, rhyming words
Cat and bat are rhyming words. They sound a lot alike.

CHANGE UP THE RHYMING WORDS TO CREATE NEW VERSES. FOR EXAMPLE:

Play and day are rhyming words, rhyming words, rhyming words ...



HEY DIDDLE DIDDLE

Hey Diddle Diddle
The Cat and the Fiddle
The Cow Jumped Over the Moon
The Little Dog Laughed
To See Such Sport
And the Dish Ran Away with the Spoon



FIVE LITTLE SNOWMEN

Five little snowmen standing in a row,
(Hold up five fingers)
Each had a hat and a big red bow.
(Put hands on head and then neck)
Out came the sun and stayed all day,
(Circle arms overhead)
And one little snowman melted away.
(Slump down)

REPEAT WITH 4, 3, 2, 1, UNTIL NO SNOWMEN ARE LEFT.



Books to Read this Month

The following titles and more are available through the Lee County Library System. Place a hold online and find additional ebook selections through Hoopla and Overdrive at www.leelibrary.net

For Readers Birth to Pre-K

The Snowy Day
by Ezra Jack Keats



That's Not My Polar Bear
by Fiona Watt

Over in the Arctic
by Marianne Berkes

A Big Bed for Little Snow
by Grace Lin

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten



Ask our librarians about 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, a fun and free program to encourage the love of reading!