

# APRIL 2023

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.



WESTMONT  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

## 1 WRITING

Talk a walk outside together. When you return home, work together to draw the story of your walk. What did you see?

## 2 PLAYING

Take turns pretending to be a variety of animals. Bark and wag your tail like a dog. Wriggle like a snake. Be a bird flapping its wings.

## 3 TALKING

Say a favorite nursery rhyme, but change an important word to something silly.

*Hickory Dickory Dock, the mouse ran up the tree...*

## 4 SINGING

Has it been raining a lot? Sing "Rain, Rain, Go Away."  
(Words are on the back. ➡)

## 5 COUNTING

Talk about big and little today. Find and talk about items that are different sizes throughout the day.

## 6 READING

Visit the library (in person or online) and check out books about spring.



## 7 WRITING

Create a piece of art. Look at the sky and draw the clouds. Be sure to sign your name!



## 8 PLAYING

Play follow the leader. One person (the leader) performs actions the others must follow. Take turns being the leader.

## 9 TALKING

Use new describing words today. For example, say "enormous" instead of "big" and "wonderful" instead of "great."

## 10 SINGING

Sing "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" during bath time.  
(Words are on the back. ➡)

## 11 COUNTING

Cut a piece of toast in half. Say "Now we have two pieces the same size."



## 12 READING

Help your child stack blocks as high as you can. Count each block as you add it. How many can you stack before it tumbles over?

## 13 WRITING

Make a dot painting with cotton swabs and paint to help develop fine motor skills.

## 14 PLAYING

Cut out large shapes—a square, a triangle, a circle—and place them on the floor. Take turns telling which shapes to step on.

## 15 TALKING

Talk about your day and their day.  
*I'm making breakfast. You're playing with blocks. We're getting ready to go out.*

## 16 SINGING

Sing "I Hear Thunder."  
(Words are on the back. ➡)

## 17 COUNTING

Count to five as you hop up and down five times. Count five small steps. Count five big steps.

## 18 READING

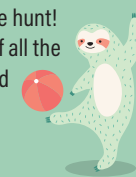
Teach letter sounds by playing "I Spy."  
*I spy with my little eye something that begins with S.  
Yes! A spoon!*

## 19 WRITING

Help your child experiment with a variety of writing tools. Use pencils, crayons, markers, and chalk on different types of paper.

## 20 PLAYING

Go on a circle hunt! Make a list of all the circle-shaped items you find today.



## 21 TALKING

Choose a word of the day. Write the word down together. Use the word several times during the course of the day.

## 22 SINGING

Make up a song about something that is familiar or interesting to your child.

## 23 COUNTING

Count in nature. How many birds, rocks, flowers, trees do you see?

## 24 READING

Place pieces of paper with big letters written on them around the room. Help your child find them.

*Where's the letter A? On the chair!*

## 25 WRITING

Write your child's first name in big block letters. Color and decorate it together. Talk about each letter.

## 26 PLAYING

Make paper bag puppets and play with them. Introduce them to each other.  
(Instructions are on the back. ➡)

## 27 TALKING

Go on a listening walk. Listen for birds, the wind, traffic, and point them out. At the end of your walk talk about what you heard.

## 28 SINGING

Take turns singing bits of favorite songs to each other.



## 29 COUNTING

Line up the family from shortest to tallest. From tallest to shortest. From oldest to youngest. From youngest to oldest.

## 30 READING

Get caught reading a book.

## Talking is one of the best ways for children to learn new words.

Speak to your child often during the day and try to use many different words to express your ideas. Children love to imitate, and they will try to imitate your speech. Chances to chat include while you are getting dressed in the morning, eating breakfast, riding in the car, walking from the car to a store, playing together, doing chores, taking a bath, going to bed, and while saying goodnight. Ask lots of open-ended questions, those that require more than a yes or no answer.

### PAPER BAG PUPPETS

You will need:

- Crayons or Markers
- Small paper bags, like lunch bags
- Yarn or ribbon
- Glue stick

Directions:

1. Use your crayons and markers to create a face on the bottom of your paper bag.
2. Use glue and yarn or ribbon to make hair. You can also draw your puppet's hair.
3. Color in the bottom part of your puppet to make clothes.
4. Put your hand inside the bag and put on a puppet show.

### ROW ROW YOUR BOAT

Row, row, row your boat  
Gently down the stream  
Merrily merrily, merrily, merrily  
Life is but a dream

### I HEAR THUNDER

*Sing to the tune "Frère Jacques"*

I hear thunder, I hear thunder.

*(Pound hands gently on floor or lap)*

Listen, don't you? Listen, don't you?

*(Cup hand to ear)*

Pitter, patter raindrops; pitter, patter raindrops;

*(Wiggle fingers in falling motion in front of face)*

I'm wet through,

*(Shake body)*

So are you!

*(Tickle your child)*

### RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY

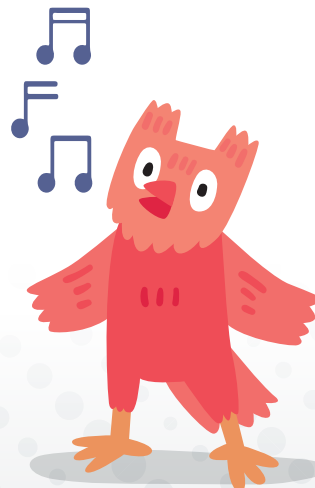
Rain, Rain,

Go away;

Come again,

Another day;

Little [child's name]  
wants to play



# Books to Read this Month

Check out these books at the library. If they are not available, ask the librarian for a recommendation.

## FOR READERS AGES 0-3

**Shh! We Have a Plan**

*by Chris Haughton*

**Toesy Toes**

*by Sarah Tsiang*

## FOR READERS AGES 3+

**Saturday**

*by Oge Mora*

**Mixed – A  
Colorful Story**

*by Arree Chung*

