Welcome
Starting Kindergarten is so Exciting!

The calendar contains:
• Ideas for fun things to do that will help your child get ready for school
• Kindergarten registration and other school information
• Books every child should hear before starting school
• Contact information for elementary schools and libraries

Important things to know:
All children are different and learn at their own pace. This calendar will help you plan activities that will help your child grow in the skills needed to start kindergarten. Children do better in school if they know more than just letters, numbers, colors, and shapes. They should have good social and physical skills, and enjoy learning new things. Use the guide below as you work with your child to build those skills and get ready for kindergarten.

How to use the calendar:
The activities in this calendar are designed for 4 and 5 year olds who will be starting kindergarten next year. They will keep your child busy and learning from September to August. Use this calendar as a guide for fun ideas, but make up some of your own activities too. Be sure to include family members and friends. Have a wonderful year together getting ready for the big event – going to kindergarten!

Having fun is an important part of learning!
Your child learns best when doing fun and interesting things with you!

This school readiness calendar was developed by United Way to help you and your child get ready for that special time - kindergarten!
Kindergarten Readiness Guide

Use this guide to help prepare your child for school. Don’t worry if your child can’t do everything on the list right now.

Use the items to set goals and remember that children grow and develop at different rates.

Make Every Day A “Learning Day” With Your Child!

Good Health and Well-Being

My Child:
- Eats a balanced diet
- Gets plenty of rest
- Sees the doctor and dentist regularly
- Is up-to-date with all shots
- Runs, jumps, plays outside and does other activities that provide exercise
- Colors, paints, does puzzles and other activities that help develop small muscles

Social and Emotional Development

My Child:
- Is trying new things
- Is learning to work well alone and do tasks independently
- Is learning to play well with other children
- Is curious and wants to learn
- Is learning self-control
- Is learning to use words to express feelings
- Helps with family chores

Math and Problem Solving

My Child:
- Is learning to sort and classify things
- Is learning to count and play counting games
- Is learning to name shapes and colors
- Makes and listens to music
- Is encouraged to ask questions
- Is encouraged to solve problems
- Has opportunities to draw and be creative
- Has many opportunities to experience new things
- Likes to solve problems

Approaches Toward Learning

My Child:
- Pays attention during activities
- Is learning to follow simple directions
- Is learning to finish what is started
- Gets to see and touch things, hear new sounds, smell and taste different foods, and watch things move
- Uses imagination

Language and Literacy

My Child:
- Has many opportunities to talk and listen
- Is read to every day
- Has access to books and other reading materials
- Is learning about print and books
- Says or sings familiar songs and nursery rhymes
- Is learning to write his or her name and address
- Retells stories
Health and Safety First

Suggest activities that get your child moving.
- Plan family outings that involve exercise.
- Give your child household chores that include movement.
- Use the stairs whenever possible.
- Choose gifts that encourage exercise.
- Limit TV, movies and computer games.

Encourage healthy eating.
- Keep healthy snacks on hand.
- Plan meals together that include several food groups.
- Visit the farmers market for fresh foods.
- Grow vegetables in a pot or garden.
- Make sweet treats a treat.
- Visit the dentist every six months.

Teach good hygiene.
- Teach your child to wash his hands after using the bathroom.
- Show them how to cover a cough or sneeze.
- Encourage your child to brush their teeth every day.

Be safety smart.
- Have a family fire safety plan.
- Teach your child about dialing 9-1-1.
- Check the fit of safety equipment like car seats and bike helmets.
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<td>With your child, pretend you are grasshoppers, gorillas and goats.</td>
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<td>Teach your child that medicine is not candy.</td>
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<td>Practice a fire drill in your home. Show your child where to meet you outside.</td>
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<td>This week, look for things that are red.</td>
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<td>Exercise to music together.</td>
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<td>With your child, look for the number &quot;1&quot; wherever you go today.</td>
<td>Make a salad together.</td>
<td>Practice counting from 1 to 10.</td>
<td>Find things that begin with the letter &quot;S.&quot;</td>
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<td>Mexican Festival of Independence</td>
<td>Teach your child to ask for help when it is needed.</td>
<td>Rosh Hashanah begins</td>
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<td>Practice from 1 to 10.</td>
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<td>First Day of Fall</td>
<td>Make a dental appointment for your child.</td>
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<td>Collect shoes from around the house, mix them up, then match the pairs.</td>
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<td>Go to the library and find out when story time is offered.</td>
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**Library Books to Look for:**
- The Three Billy Goats Gruff by Peter Asbjornsen
- Big Fat Hen by Keith Baker
- Shark Vs. Train by Chris Barton
- Madeline by Ludwig Bemelman
- Barnyard Dance by Sandra Boynton
- Snip Snap What’s That by Mara Bergman
- I Ain't Gonna Paint No More by Karen Beaumont

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**Notes:**
- Practice counting from 1 to 10.
- Teach your child that medicine is not candy.
- Teach your child to ask for help when it is needed.
- Find things that begin with the letter "S."
- Make a salad together.
- Practice a fire drill in your home. Show your child where to meet you outside.
- Collect shoes from around the house, mix them up, then match the pairs.
- Make a dental appointment for your child.
- Exercise to music together.
- Go to the library and find out when story time is offered.
- Mexican Festival of Independence
- Grandparents Day
- Labor Day
- First Day of Fall
- Yom Kippur begins
- Rosh Hashanah begins
- Live United

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Create a reading place for your child.
• Keep your child's books in a special place and easy to reach.
• Put a small rug or pillow in the special place to make it a fun place for reading.
• Talk with your child about how to take care of books.

Give your child different types of books to read.
• Get a library card for you and your child and visit the library often.
• Visit the children's section of the library together and choose books to take home.
• Look for books in other places.
  – From friends and relatives
  – At garage or yard sales
  – At book stores

Make some time each day to read with your child.
• Read in a quiet place.
• Hold your child close to you when you read.
• Read your child's favorite books over and over.
• Help your child understand that reading is important.

Let your child join in the reading.
• Before you start reading, let your child look at the pictures and guess what the book is about.
• Show your child how to read a book (from left to right and front to back).
• Encourage your child to point to the pictures in the book.
• After reading a book, ask him to tell the story in his own words.
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<td><img src="image" alt="Pumpkin" /></td>
<td>4 With your child, write a note to a friend or relative.</td>
<td>5 With your child, write a note to a friend or relative.</td>
<td>6 Find things that come in pairs.</td>
<td>1 With your child, pretend you are puppies, pirates and princes or princesses.</td>
<td>2 Talk about how all feelings are okay but not all actions are okay.</td>
<td>3 With your child, look at the pictures in a book before you read it.</td>
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| 11 This week, look for things that are orange. | 12 Indigenous People Day Columbus Day | 13 Find the letter “P” on different things. | 14 Collect and sort autumn leaves. | 15 Make a shopping list with your child. | 16 Find the number “2” on different things. | 17 Cut up an old greeting card in puzzle-like shapes and fit the pieces back together. |

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**Library Books to Look for:**

- *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* by Jan Brett
- *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown
- *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle
- *Stellaluna* by Janell Cannon
- *Freight Train* by Donald Crews
- *Click Clack Moo: Cows That Type* by Doreen Cronin

**Halloween**

**United Way**

**LIVE UNITED**
Encourage Your Child to Listen and Use Words to Express Ideas and Feelings

Take time each day to listen and talk with your child.
- While traveling:
  - Turn off the radio
  - Encourage your child to talk about where you are going and what you will do when you get there
- At home:
  - Turn off the TV at mealtime and talk about things that interest your child
  - Talk about things each of you did that day

Use pictures to help your child express ideas.
- Look at pictures in books together.
- Ask your child to tell you what he sees in each picture.
- Have your child draw a picture and then tell you about it.

Have your child express different feelings.
- Read books that explain different feelings.
- Talk about times people feel sad, happy, angry or scared.
- Make faces or voices that show feelings.
- Help your child name feelings while he or she is experiencing them.

Provide activities that involve listening and following directions.
- Have your child do two things in order like:
  - Pick up her plate and put it in the sink
  - Hop to the door and open it

November 2020
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<td>Daylight Savings</td>
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<td>Find the number &quot;3&quot; on different things today.</td>
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<td>Look for the letter &quot;T&quot; today.</td>
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<td>Pick a new book and encourage your child to guess what the story will be about by looking at the cover.</td>
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<td>While in line, talk about waiting your turn.</td>
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<td>Draw a picture of your whole family.</td>
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<td>With your child, listen for different kinds of sounds everywhere you go today.</td>
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<td>During the day, have your child tell you when it is morning, afternoon and night.</td>
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<td>Exercise with your child. Hop and do arm circles, counting them as you go.</td>
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<td>With your child, make up a story about turkeys, tortillas and turtles.</td>
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<td>Practice shoe tying.</td>
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<td>Find the letter &quot;H&quot; this week.</td>
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<td>Make a list of things you are thankful for.</td>
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<td>With your child, trace the letters of their first name.</td>
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<td>This week, look for things that are brown.</td>
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**Library BOOKS to LOOK for:**

- Pete the Cat & His Four Groovy Buttons by James Dean
- Jamberry by Bruce Degen
- Are You My Mother? by P.D. Eastman
- Go Away, Big Green Monster by Ed Emberley
- Olivia by Ian Falconer
- Color Zoo by Lois Ehlert
Make Time for Family

Encourage family closeness.
• Keep a family journal for everyone to write or draw in.
• Call a relative to say "I love you."
• Eat meals together.
• Create your own family holiday greeting cards.
• Invite family members to your children’s activities.
• Share and record great family stories.

Reduce stress.
• Take a walk, hike or bike ride for a healthy family activity.
• Start a family game night and play games like "Twister."
• Volunteer to help someone in need.
• Stay true to routines like bed time and meal time.
• Do chores together.
• Laugh together.

Establish family traditions.
• Draw secret pal names and do acts of kindness.
• Have a special meal plate that is used to celebrate special occasions.
• Let the birthday person choose their favorite meal.
• Take turns choosing a dinner topic of discussion.

Make cooking and meal time family time.
• Turn off the TV at cooking and meal times.
• At the table, talk about things that interest your child.
• Share choices about a meal with your child.
• Shop for ingredients together and let your child pick a fruit, vegetable or meat.

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<td>Kwanzaa begins</td>
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- **New Year's Eve**
- **Hanukkah begins**
- **First Day of Winter**
- **Christmas Eve**
- **Christmas Day**
- **Kwanzaa begins**

**Library Books to Look for:**
- **Bark, George** by Jules Feiffer
- **Blue Chicken** by Deborah Freedman
- **Corduroy** by Don Freeman
- **The Gingerbread Boy** by Paul Galdone
- **My Father's Dragon** by Ruth Stiles Gannett
- **Apple Pear Orange Bear** by Emily Gravett
- **Chrysanthemum** by Kevin Henkes

**Additional Activities:**
1. Call a loved one.
2. Use an egg carton to sort beans, buttons or beads.
3. Find the number “4” on things around the store.
4. With your child, pretend to be snowflakes, snowballs and snowmen, then melt.
5. Put on music and dance fast, slow, happy and silly.
6. Help your child practice zipping their coat and then take a walk together.
7. Help your child write the letters of his first name.
8. Use an egg carton to sort beans, buttons or beads.
10. Count backwards from 10 with your child.
11. With your child, pretend to be snowflakes, snowballs and snowmen, then melt.
12. Make cookies with your child to share as a gift.
13. First Day of Winter
14. Count backwards from 10 with your child.
15. This week, look for the letter "D."
16. Help your child write the letters of his first name.
17. Look for the letter “B” today.
18. Draw a winter picture.
19. Make cookies with your child to share as a gift.
20. Count backwards from 10 with your child.
21. Draw a winter picture.
22. Help your child practice zipping their coat and then take a walk together.
23. Look for the letter “B” today.
24. With your child, pretend to be snowflakes, snowballs and snowmen, then melt.
25. First Day of Winter
26. This week, look for the letter "D."
27. Count backwards from 10 with your child.
28. Draw a winter picture.
29. Help your child practice zipping their coat and then take a walk together.
30. Look for the letter “B” today.
31. Make cookies with your child to share as a gift.
Make the Most of TV, Videos and Computers

Use media as learning tools.
• Select TV programs carefully. Ask yourself, “Does this program teach what I want my child to learn?”
• Check out interesting videos and DVDs from the library. Discover the world of animals, sea life or outer space.
• Reinforce basic skills like colors, shapes and counting with quality computer games.
• Encourage listening by playing different types of music.

Limit children’s total screen time.
• Set limits for TV and computer use.
• Turn the TV off when no one is watching it. Turn it on when you want to watch a specific program.
• Keep the TV and computer in a public area of your home.

Monitor the media your child is using.
• Select age appropriate TV programs, videos, music, video games and websites.
• Preview programs, videos and websites so you know exactly what your child will see.
• Watch together and talk about what you see.

Avoid making TV a centerpiece of home life.
• Encourage reading, drawing, playing outdoors, listening to music or card and board games.
• Turn the TV off at meal time and talk about some things each of you did that day.
• Be a role model and set an example by watching less TV yourself.
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<td><img src="snowflake.png" alt="Snowflake" /></td>
<td>This week, look for things that are <strong>purple</strong>.</td>
<td>Create an obstacle course that requires big movements.</td>
<td>Practice being quiet for one minute and then for two minutes.</td>
<td>Teach your child their address.</td>
<td>Ask your child to draw pictures of different places. New Year's Day</td>
<td>Play &quot;Simon Says&quot; with your child.</td>
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**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

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<td>Make counting fun by asking things like &quot;How many windows are in this room?&quot;</td>
<td>Help your child make a blanket fort and then read inside of it.</td>
<td>Create an obstacle course that requires big movements.</td>
<td>Ask your child to draw pictures of different places.</td>
<td>Look for the number &quot;5&quot; today.</td>
<td>Practice being quiet for one minute and then for two minutes.</td>
<td>Read two books today.</td>
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**New Year's Day**

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<td>Find things that begin with the letter &quot;A.&quot;</td>
<td>Practice counting to 10 (or higher!)</td>
<td>Find the letter &quot;J&quot; in newspapers or magazines.</td>
<td>Today, play toss and catch.</td>
<td>Practice being quiet for one minute and then for two minutes.</td>
<td>Teach your child their address.</td>
<td>Read two books today.</td>
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**Library Books to Look for:**

- *Bread and Jam For Frances* by Russell Hoban
- *Harold and the Purple Crayon* by Crockett Johnson
- *Splash!* by Ann Jonas
- *The Wolf's Chicken Stew* by Keiko Kasza
- *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats
- *Caps For Sale* by Esphyr Slobodkina
- *Seals on the Bus* by Lenny Hort
Gather and organize tools for drawing, writing and cutting.

- Help your child choose a container for drawing and writing materials.
- Decide on the rules for using drawing and writing materials. For example, “Markers may only be used at the table” and “Scissors are for cutting paper,” are good starting rules.
- Find a special place to display drawings and projects your child has made.

Let your child experiment with drawing.

- Let your child draw pictures in different places.
  - In the kitchen when you are cooking
  - At the park
- Talk with your child about her pictures.
- Praise your child’s efforts. Remember, perfection is not the goal.

Let your child see that words on paper are part of daily life.

- Make a shopping list together.
- Put your child’s name on his things.
- Leave notes for family members.

Help your child practice using scissors.

- Decide where your child will be allowed to use scissors and talk about safety when using them.
- Show your child how to hold scissors and paper while cutting.
- Give your child newspaper, magazines or junk mail to cut.
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>Groundhog Day</td>
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<td>Kindergarten Registration</td>
<td>Many schools begin kindergarten registration as early as February. This is a good month to check with your local school for registration information.</td>
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<td>With your child, pretend you are lions, logs and falling leaves.</td>
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<td>With your child, talk about animals with 2 legs/4 legs.</td>
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<td>Today, find the number &quot;6&quot; on things.</td>
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<td>Find the letter &quot;V&quot; today.</td>
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<td>With your child, pretend you are lions, logs and falling leaves.</td>
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<td>Play &quot;I love you more than...&quot;</td>
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<td>With your child, talk about animals with 2 legs/4 legs.</td>
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<td>Draw a Valentine’s Day heart with your child.</td>
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<td>Schedule a six-month dental check-up for your child.</td>
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<td>Count all the doors or windows in your home with your child.</td>
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<td>Find the letter &quot;L&quot; this week.</td>
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<td>Teach your child his phone number.</td>
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<td>Talk with your child about what he or she enjoys doing.</td>
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<td>Sing the alphabet song.</td>
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<td>This week, look for things that are pink.</td>
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**Library Books to Look for:**
- Anansi and the Moss-Covered Rock by Eric Kimmel
- I Want My Hat Back by J. Klassen
- Frog and Toad Are Friends by Arnold Lobel
- Leo The Late Bloomer by Robert Kraus
- Wave by Suzy Lee
- The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf
- All Aboard the Dinotrain by Deb Lund
Help Your Child Become Aware of the Letters, Words and Sounds of Language

Teach your child the letters of the alphabet.
- Make cards with one letter of the alphabet on each card.
- Lay out the cards and sing the alphabet song together. Ask your child to touch each letter as you sing.
- Read alphabet books and encourage your child to name the letters he or she recognizes.
- Play "Find the Letter" with your child when you are out shopping.

Teach your child that words have meanings.
- Help your child recognize his or her first name in print.
- Invite your child to "read" the names of familiar stores, signs and products.
- Help your child make a dictionary with some of his or her favorite words listed under each letter of the alphabet. Ask your child to draw a picture next to each word.

Help your child match letters to sounds.
- Tape pictures of items that begin with the same letter on the back of each alphabet card. For example, a picture of a banana would go on the back of a letter "B" card.
- Write down a letter and tell your child the sound that letter makes. Ask your child to name other words that have that beginning letter sound.

Play with rhyming sounds.
- Find different items around the house like a sock, ball or hat. For each item, ask your child to say a word that rhymes with it. Silly words that rhyme are fine.
- Read rhymes with your child. Ask your child to complete rhymes with the correct rhyming word.

  Hey diddle diddle. The cat and the ___________ . (fiddle)
  Jack and Jill went up the ___________ . (hill)

March 2021
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<tr>
<td><img src="clover.png" alt="Clover" /></td>
<td>1 Help your child draw a kite with two triangles.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3 Today, find things that are shaped like a triangle.</td>
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<td>5 Read a story with your child and have him tell you what happened first, second and last.</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9 Find the letter “K” today.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11 Practice jumping, hopping and skipping</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13 With your child, find words that rhyme.</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>17 Have your child pick out something green to wear today.</td>
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<td>19 Take a walk with your child and look for signs of spring.</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>25 Start a story, stop and have your child make up the ending.</td>
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<td>27 Find the number “7” today.</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30 Practice throwing and catching a ball.</td>
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<td>First Day of Spring</td>
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**Library BOOKS to LOOK for:**

- Pickin’ Peas by Margaret Read MacDonald
- Baby Bear, Baby Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin
- Little Red Hen by Jerry Pinkney
- Make Way For Ducklings by Robert McCloskey
- If You Give a Mouse A Cookie by Laura Joffe Numeroff
- Fancy Nancy by Jane O’Connor

**Events:**

- Dr. Seuss’s Birthday
- Daylight Savings
- St. Patrick’s Day
- Passover begins
- First Day of Spring

**Special Days:**

- Monday, March 1: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Find the number “7” today.
  - Start a story, stop and have your child make up the ending.

- Thursday, March 4: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Practice throwing and catching a ball.

- Friday, March 5: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Read a story with your child and have him tell you what happened first, second and last.

- Saturday, March 6: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - With your child, find words that rhyme.

- Monday, March 8: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Find the letter “K” today.

- Tuesday, March 9: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Find the letter “K” today.

- Wednesday, March 10: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Practice jumping, hopping and skipping

- Thursday, March 11: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Practice jumping, hopping and skipping

- Friday, March 12: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Take a walk with your child and look for signs of spring.

- Saturday, March 13: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - With your child, find words that rhyme.

- Monday, March 15: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - This week, find the letter “E.”

- Tuesday, March 16: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Have your child pick out something green to wear today.

- Wednesday, March 17: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Have your child pick out something green to wear today.

- Thursday, March 18: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Practice jumping, hopping and skipping

- Friday, March 19: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Take a walk with your child and look for signs of spring.

- Saturday, March 20: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - With your child, find words that rhyme.

- Monday, March 22: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - This week, find the letter “E.”

- Tuesday, March 23: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Help your child draw a kite with two triangles.

- Wednesday, March 24: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Today, find things that are shaped like a triangle.

- Thursday, March 25: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Start a story, stop and have your child make up the ending.

- Friday, March 26: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - With your child, find words that rhyme.

- Saturday, March 27: Library LOOK BOOKS to find:
  - Find the number “7” today.
Help Your Child With Numbers and Counting

Use number words and point out written numbers when you and your child do things together.

• In the kitchen:
  – “On this package of rice it says to add 2 cups of water.”
  – “I need you to put 3 forks and 3 plates on the table.”
• At the grocery store:
  – “That sign says bananas are 59 cents a pound.”
  – “Pick out 4 apples and put them in this bag.”
• At play:
  – “See if you can stack 6 pennies.”
  – “Can you put 4 blocks in a row?”

Play number and counting games with your child.

• Play “Simon Says.” Say to your child:
  – “Simon says clap your hands 5 times.”
  – “Simon says take 3 steps forward.”
Let your child have a turn being “Simon.”

• Make a card for each of the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.
• Ask your child to place the correct number of pennies or beans on each card.

Read, tell stories, sing songs and say nursery rhymes about numbers and counting.

• Read or tell stories such as The Three Bears to your child.
• Say nursery rhymes such as “One, Two, Buckle my Shoe” and “Baa Baa Black Sheep” with your child.
• Sing counting songs you may remember from your childhood.
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<td>Find things that are in the shape of a square.</td>
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<td>Make a piggy bank out of a coffee can and start saving coins.</td>
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<td>Look for the letter &quot;R.&quot;</td>
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<td>Help your child draw an umbrella with your child under it.</td>
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<td>Put on music and dance and clap to the beat.</td>
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<td>With your child, pretend you are rabbits and robots.</td>
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<td>Ramadan begins</td>
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<td>This week, find the number &quot;8&quot; on things.</td>
<td>Today, eat something from a rectangular or square box.</td>
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<td>Play &quot;I Spy&quot; with things that are blue.</td>
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<td>Look for the letter &quot;Q&quot; this week.</td>
<td>Today, find things that are shaped like rectangles.</td>
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**Library Books to Look for:**

- Not A Box by Antoinette Portis
- Early Bird by Richard Scarry
- Curious George by H.A. Rey
- Let’s Play in the Forest by Claudia Rueda
- We’re Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen
- 10 Minutes Till Bedtime by Peggy Rathmann
- The Tale of Peter Rabbit by Beatrix Potter
Collect safe toys to help your child use large muscles.

- Use empty plastic water bottles as bowling pins.
- Make beanbags by filling a sock part-way with dried beans and tying a knot.
- Use beanbags, big balls or small pillows to throw and catch.

Let your child spend time outside.

- Have a safe outdoor place for your child to run and play.
- Set up an obstacle course and have your child steer a tricycle through it.
- Take your child to the park or playground.

Give your child things to do when playing.

- Encourage your child to play "Hop Scotch" to his or her ability.
- Play singing games such as the "Hokey Pokey."
- Let your child try balancing a book on his or her head while walking.
- Act like different animals. Can your child:
  - Hop like a rabbit?
  - Slide like a snake?
  - Crawl like a bug?
  - Fly like a bird?
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<td>Make and give a “May Day” gift for a friend or neighbor.</td>
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<td>After reading a story, have your child tell you what happened first, next and last.</td>
<td>Have your child name the letters found on cereal boxes, cans and other food items.</td>
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<td>Cinco de Mayo</td>
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<td>Find the letter “M” today.</td>
<td>With your child, count as high as they can.</td>
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<td>Visit the PBS website at pbskids.org</td>
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<td>Draw something yellow.</td>
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<td>Mother’s Day</td>
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<td>Today practice good hand washing.</td>
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<td>Find the number “9” today.</td>
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<td>Help your child practice writing his/her name.</td>
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<td>Go to the library and explore their on-line services.</td>
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<td>Keep the TV off today.</td>
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<td>Library BOOKS to LOOK for: The Stinky Cheese Man by Jon Scieszka • Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak • The Cat in the Hat by Dr. Seuss • One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish by Dr. Seuss • Fox in Socks by Dr. Seuss • Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss</td>
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Encourage your child to pretend and make believe.

- Make and decorate puppets out of paper bags or old socks. Have your child perform a puppet show!
- Have some grown up clothes, costumes and accessories for your child to use for dress-up.
- With your child, set up a pretend store using empty household food containers.
- Provide basic wooden blocks or other building sets for your child to play with.
- Remember to let your child play alone if he or she is happy.

Encourage artful expressions.

- Take your child on a nature walk and collect interesting objects in a bag.
- Create a collage from this nature collection.
- Paint an old sheet using diluted paints in spray bottles.
- Use freezer paper for finger-painting.
- Let your child make music.
  - Use wooden spoons and plastic tubs for drums.
  - Make cymbals using pot lids.
  - Put dried beans inside two paper plates stapled together for shakers.

Play learning games with your child.

- Make matching pairs of cards using stickers or different colors or shapes.
- Start with six pairs of matching cards, face up and shuffled. Invite your child to find two cards that match.
- Add additional pairs of cards as your child becomes more skilled at finding the pairs.
- Play “I Spy” with objects around the house. For example, “I spy something yellow. You peel it and eat it. What is it?” (banana)
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<td>Pretend it’s the first day of school and practice saying &quot;good-bye&quot; to each other.</td>
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<td>Ask your child to draw a big square. Have him draw things in, out, over and under the square.</td>
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<td>Find the number &quot;10&quot; today.</td>
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<td>Play &quot;Follow the Leader&quot; outside.</td>
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<td>Find the letter &quot;C&quot; this week.</td>
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<td>Learn a patriotic song.</td>
<td>Make your own bean bags and then play catch.</td>
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<td>Make your own bean bags and then play catch.</td>
<td>Talk about how some children have special needs.</td>
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<td>Look for the letter &quot;F&quot; on things.</td>
<td>Go on a rock hunt. How are the rocks the same or different?</td>
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<td>This week, look for the colors of the rainbow.</td>
<td>Count in groups of &quot;10&quot; with your child.</td>
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**Library BOOKS to LOOK for:**

- Sheep in a Jeep by Nancy Shaw
- Joseph Had a Little Overcoat by Simms Taback
- What Can You Do With a Rebozo/Que Puedes Hacer Con Un Rebozo by Carmen Tafolla
- A Hat for Minerva Louise by Janet Morgan Stoeke
- The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein
Involve your child in discovering things that go together.

- Collect things that go together from around your home. For example:
  - Comb and brush
  - Spoon and fork
  - Toothbrush and toothpaste
  - Flower and vase
- Mix the items up and have your child find the two objects that go together.
- Encourage your child to tell you why they go together.

Play pattern games together.

- Create a movement pattern and ask your child to repeat it. For example: step-step-jump-turn.
- Start a pattern using objects and ask your child to keep it going. For example: crayon, crayon, penny, crayon, crayon, penny.
- Have your child make up a pattern for you to repeat together.

Provide opportunities to experience and solve conflicts.

- Give your child lots of time to play with other children.
- Encourage activities that involve sharing such as blocks, crayons, Play-Doh and dress-up.
- Make up a conflict with stuffed animals or puppets.
- Talk about how the different animals are feeling. Discuss with your child how to resolve the conflict.
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<th>Sunday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Independence Day" /></td>
<td><strong>Library BOOKS to LOOK for:</strong> The Doghouse by Jan Thomas • Press Here by Herve Tullet • Flotsam by David Wiesner Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day by Judith Viorst Mouse Paint by Ellen Stoll Walsh • Owl Babies by Martin Waddell</td>
<td><strong>Practice writing letters and numbers with your child.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Count pennies as high as your child can count.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Put together a puzzle with your child.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Find the letter “Z” today.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Celebrate something your child has recently accomplished.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Have your child find things that are red, white and blue.</strong> Independence Day</td>
<td><strong>Say a word and ask your child to tell you the opposite (big, small, sad, happy.)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Find the letter “W” today.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Practice writing letters and numbers with your child.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Find the letter “X” this week.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Find the letter “Y” today.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Count pennies as high as your child can count.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Find the letter “Z” today.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Play “Which is Bigger?” using the numbers 1-10.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Practice singing the letters of the alphabet.</strong></td>
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Make "Going to Kindergarten" Plans with Your Child

August 2021

Get ready for kindergarten.
- Begin to gather school supplies for your child.
- Play school with your child. Take turns being the teacher.
- Pretend your car is the school bus.
- Eat a meal from a lunch box or bag.
- Have your child put on and take off a coat.
- Sing songs and draw pictures.
- Decide how you will say goodbye to each other on the first day of school.

Visit your child’s school.
- Attend your school’s open house or “Back to School” event this month.
- Learn about your child’s school bus route and times.
- Find out about the daily schedule for your child’s class.
- Explore the classroom.
- Look for the cafeteria, playground, restrooms, principal’s office & library.

Establish a school routine.
- Determine a regular bedtime for your child.
- Put backpacks and school supplies in the same place every day.
- Talk about and choose school clothes the night before school.
- Have a pleasant conversation with your child on the way to school or the bus stop.
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<td>Review the alphabet with your child.</td>
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<td>Have your child draw a picture of his new school.</td>
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<td>Practice math at home. For example, “I have 1 cookie and you have 2 cookies. That makes 3 cookies.”</td>
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<td>Practice zipping and buttoning with your child.</td>
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<td>Visit your child’s school and play on the playground.</td>
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<td>Take a walk and talk about all the different sounds you hear.</td>
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<td>Read books at the beach or park.</td>
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<td>Organize what your child will need for the first day of school.</td>
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<td>Have your child bounce a ball and count each bounce.</td>
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<td>Have your child write his/her name and identify each letter.</td>
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<td>Talk about ways to make friends.</td>
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<td>Have your child draw a circle, square, triangle and a rectangle.</td>
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<td>Lacey, WA 98503</td>
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<td>Lacey, WA 98516</td>
<td>360-412-4620</td>
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<td>836 Dearbrush Drive SE</td>
<td>Lacey, WA 98513</td>
<td>360-412-4690</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nthurston.k12.wa.us">www.nthurston.k12.wa.us</a></td>
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<td>2845 Sleetaker-Kinney Rd NE</td>
<td>Lacey, WA 98506</td>
<td>360-412-4640</td>
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<td>Madison Elementary</td>
<td>1225 Legion Way SE</td>
<td>Olympia, WA 98501</td>
<td>360-596-6300</td>
<td><a href="http://www.madison.osd.wednet.edu">www.madison.osd.wednet.edu</a></td>
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<td>Olympic View Elementary</td>
<td>1330 Horne Ave. NE</td>
<td>Olympia, WA 98506</td>
<td>360-596-6300</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bostonharbor.osd.wednet.edu">www.bostonharbor.osd.wednet.edu</a></td>
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<td>Olympic View Elementary</td>
<td>325 Plymouth Street NW</td>
<td>Olympia, WA 98502</td>
<td>360-596-6900</td>
<td><a href="http://www.garfield.osd.wednet.edu">www.garfield.osd.wednet.edu</a></td>
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<td>Olympic View Elementary</td>
<td>213 21st Avenue SW</td>
<td>Olympia, WA 98501</td>
<td>360-596-6600</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mclane.osd.wednet.edu">www.mclane.osd.wednet.edu</a></td>
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<td>Olympic View Elementary</td>
<td>6345 Black Lake-Belmore Rd SW</td>
<td>Tumwater, WA 98512</td>
<td>360-709-7350</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bleweb.tumwater.k12.wa.us">www.bleweb.tumwater.k12.wa.us</a></td>
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Thurston County Public Schools

Tumwater School District
East Olympia Elementary
8700 Rich Road SE
Olympia, WA 98501
360-709-7150
www.eoeweb.tumwater.k12.wa.us

Littlerock Elementary
12710 Littlerock Road SW
Olympia, WA 98512
360-709-7250
www.lreweb.tumwater.k12.wa.us

Michael T. Simmons Elementary
1205 Second Avenue South
Tumwater, WA 98501
360-709-7100
www.mtsweb.tumwater.k12.wa.us

Peter G. Schmidt Elementary
225 Dennis Street SE
Tumwater, WA 98501
360-709-7200
www.pgsweb.tumwater.k12.wa.us

Tumwater Hill Elementary
3120 Ridgeview Court SW
Tumwater, WA 98512
360-709-7300
www.theweb.tumwater.k12.wa.us

Rochester School District
Rochester Primary
7440 James Road SW
Rochester, WA 98579
360-273-5161

Rainier School District
Rainier Elementary
600 Third Street West
Rainier, WA 98576
360-446-4020
www.rainier.wednet.edu

Tenino School District
Parkside Elementary
301 Central Avenue
Tenino, WA 98589
360-264-3800
www.parkside.teninoschools.org

Southworth Elementary
13849 Yelm Highway SE
Yelm, WA 98597
360-458-2500
www.ycs.wednet.edu

Lackamas Elementary
16240 Bald Hill Road SE
PO Box 476
Yelm, WA 98597
360-894-6000
www.ycs.wednet.edu

McKenna Elementary
35120 State Route 507 South
McKenna, WA 98558
360-458-2400
www.ycs.wednet.edu

Mill Pond Elementary
909 Mill Road SE
Yelm, WA 98597
360-458-3400
www.ycs.wednet.edu

Prairie Elementary
16535 110th Avenue SE
Yelm, WA 98597
360-458-3700
www.ycs.wednet.edu

Yelm Community Schools
Fort Stevens Elementary
16525 100th Way SE
Yelm, WA 98597
360-458-4800
www.ycs.wednet.edu

Kindergarten Readiness Resources

Kindergarten Milestones and Skill Builders by Subject
www.familyeducation.com

Parents and Family Resources
www.dcyf.wa.gov/services

WA Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills
www.k12.wa.us/wakids

Child Care Aware of Washington
www.childcareawarewa.org

National PTA Parent’s Guide to Student Success
www.pta.org

Tools for Your Child’s Ages and Stages
www.bornlearning.org

WA Early Learning and Development Guidelines
Lacey
Timberland Library
500 College St. SE
Lacey, WA 98503
360-491-3860

Nisqually TRL Kiosk
Nisqually Tribe Reservation
4820 She-Nah-Num Dr SE
Olympia, WA 98513
360-456-5221 ext.1125

Olympia
Timberland Library
313 8th Ave. SE
Olympia, WA 98501
360-352-0595

Rochester TRL Kiosk
Rochester Community Center
10140 Hwy 12 SW
Rochester, WA 98579
360-858-7086

Tenino
Timberland Library
172 Central Ave. W.
P.O. Box 4017
Tenino, WA 98589
360-264-2369

Tumwater
Timberland Library
7023 New Market Street
Tumwater, WA 98501
360-943-7790

Yelm
Timberland Library
210 Prairie Park Street
Yelm, WA 98597
360-458-3374
Below are a few songs and finger plays recommended by The Public Library Association. Parents and caregivers can use them to develop reading readiness in children beginning to read.

**If You’re Happy and You Know It**
If you’re happy and you know it, Clap your hands.
If you’re happy and you know it, Clap your hands.
If you’re happy and you know it, Then your face will surely show it,
If you’re happy and you know it, Clap your hands.
(repeat with stomp your feet, shout hurray, peekaboo, slap your knees)

**Five Little Ducks**
Five little ducks that I once knew,
Fat ones, skinny ones there were too.
But the one little duck with the feather on his back,
He led the others with a quack, quack, quack.
Quack, quack, quack.
Quack, quack, quack.
He led the others with a quack, quack, quack.
Down to the meadow they would go,
Wibble wobble, wibble, wobble to and fro,
But the one little duck with the feather on his back...
(repeat refrain)

**Head and Shoulders, Knees and Toes**
(throughout, touch the appropriate part of own body)
Head and shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes.
Head and shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes.
Eyes and ears, and mouth and nose.
Head and shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes.

**Reach for the Ceiling**
(suit actions to words)
Reach for the ceiling, Touch the floor, Stand up again, Let’s do some more.
Touch your head, Touch your knee, Up to your shoulders, Like this you see.
Reach for the ceiling, Touch the floor. That’s all for now, There isn’t anymore.

**Little Turtle**
There was a little turtle, (make a fist)
He lived in a box.
(put one fist in cupped opposite hand)
He swam in a puddle, (make paddling motion with hands)
He climbed on the rock, (climb hands upwards in front of body)
He snapped at a mosquito, (make ‘snap’ motion with thumb and forefinger on last word)
He snapped at a flea, (snap on last word)
He snapped at a minnow, (snap at your nose on last word)
He snapped at me. (snap at your nose on last word)
He caught the mosquito, (clap on last word)
He caught the flea, (clap on last word)
He caught the minnow, (clap on last word)
But he didn’t catch me! (point to self and shake head “no”!

**Wheels on the Bus**
The wheels on the bus go round and round,
Round and round, round and round,
The wheels on the bus go round and round,
Round and round, round and round,
All around the town.
The wipers on the bus go swish, swish, swish...
The driver on the bus says “move on back”...
The people on the bus go up and down...
The babies on the bus go “wah, wah, wah”...
The parents on the bus go “ssh, ssh, ssh”...
(adaptions: the horse on the farm goes “neigh, neigh, neigh,” cow, lamb, pig, etc.)
United Way of Thurston County

3525 7th Ave SW, Suite 201
Olympia, WA 98502
360-943-2773
www.unitedway-thurston.org

Thanks Child Care Action Council for their Sponsorship of this Calendar.