

EARLY LITERACY CALENDAR

MAY
2024

SUNDAY



St. Louis
County
Library

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

5 SING

Sing along to music with a fast tempo while picking up and putting away toys.

6 WRITE

Build with blocks. Stack and knock them over, count them, sort them and make your own creations.

7 PLAY

Play near a friend and practice taking turns with toys. Taking turns is the first step to sharing!

8 READ

Read a story about butterflies like those in "The Very Impatient Caterpillar" series by Ross Burach.

9 TALK

At bedtime, take turns talking about your day. What was your favorite part?

10 SING

Visit the library to sing a song at Lap Time or Story Time.

11 WRITE

Make a card for someone special in your life by folding a piece of paper in half and drawing a picture on it.

12 PLAY

Walk along a line of painter's tape on the floor. Make the line zig-zag or curve for more challenging fun.

13 TALK

Talk all day about the letter M for May. What things can you find around the house that begin with the sound "mmm"?

14 READ

Happy birthday, Kim Norman! Read "The Bears Shared" or another one of her stories.

15 SING

Chant a rhyme that tells a story like "We're Going on a Bear Hunt."

16 WRITE

Cut a few straws in pieces and drop them into an empty water bottle. No straws at home? Try beans, penne or cut-up spaghetti.

17 PLAY

Play a game of peek-a-boo with your hands, a scarf or a towel.

18 READ

Read a favorite story and retell it from a different character's point of view.

19 TALK

Cut open plants, large seeds or fruits and talk about what you notice inside.

20 SING

Play in a kitchen band while listening to music. Tap a spoon on a pot, shake some spices or rattle a set of measuring spoons.

21 WRITE

Place a sheet of paper on the floor and color while bending over in downward dog.

22 PLAY

Is it sunny today? Lie outside for a sky scavenger hunt to see what shapes you can find in the clouds.

23 READ

Read a story about a garden like "Linh's Rooftop Garden" by JaNay Brown-Wood.

24 TALK

Talk about flowers and other things you see growing outside.

25 SING



Sing along to the song "There's Something in My Garden."

26 WRITE

Create a painting without a brush! Use yarn, flowers or other found materials as alternative brushes.

27 PLAY

Plant flowers in a pot or in the ground. If you use a pot, decorate it first with paint or stickers.

28 READ

Play with foam letters in the bathtub.

29 TALK

Count each pass as your roll or toss a ball back and forth. How many passes can you make?

30 SING

Name different body parts while singing "The Hokey Pokey."

31 WRITE

Look at real flowers or pictures of flowers and draw what you see.

FIVE BEST PRACTICES TO HELP YOUR CHILD GET READY TO READ:



READ

Reading together helps your child develop a love of reading and become a strong reader.



TALK

Talking with your child helps them learn new words and understand how language works.



SING

Singing helps your child hear the sounds in words and builds their vocabulary.



WRITE

Writing helps your child learn that letters and words represent sounds and have meaning.



PLAY

Active, hands-on play helps your child express themselves and understand their world.

Picture Book BINGO Challenge 2024

Register online at slcl.beanstack.org and complete 3 early literacy activities to be automatically entered into an electronic raffle for this month's featured picture book.

Ages 0-5.

READ

What do you think Mama Shamsi means when she says, "Na, na, na?" Read more about Farsi words and the city of Tehran in the authors' note at the end of the story.

TALK

Mama Shamsi and Samira spend the day having fun together. Talk about the people that take care of you and how they make you feel.


WRITE

Practice making the letter N by writing the words "Na" and "No." Do you know how to say no in any other languages?

PLAY

Go exploring outside! Follow Mama Shamsi's advice and "use your eyes and your ears, even your nose too, to explore this world and learn what's around you!"

READ



"Mama Shamsi at the Bazaar" by Mojdeh Hassani and Samira Irvani.

SING



Scan the QR code to listen to an Iranian rhyme or song at Mama Lisa's World.

TALK

Mama Shamsi and Samira shop for groceries at the bazaar. Look at the pictures and talk about how the bazaar is similar to and different from where you shop.

WRITE

Help write a grocery list. Pictures and invented spelling are great ways to practice writing.

PLAY

Pretend to be an animal like Mama Shamsi with Samira under her chador. How would you act like a turtle or a kangaroo?

