

JULY 2026

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

			1 WRITING Plan a picnic. Together, write a list of things you will need to bring. Check off the list as you locate the items.	2 PLAYING Play store. Set up a store with your child's toys. Take turns being the check-out clerk and the shopper.	3 TALKING Talk about time. Draw a sun and underneath, write down things that happen during the day. Draw a moon and list things that happen at night.	4 SINGING Sing a song with movement, like BINGO. (Words on back. ➡)
5 COUNTING Talk about sizes. Draw small boxes and large boxes. Ask your child to circle the small boxes.	6 READING After reading a book, take turns making up possible new titles for it.	7 WRITING Write a short message and tuck it in your child's shoe. Read it together when your child finds it.	8 PLAYING Play Follow the Leader outside. Take turns being the leader. 	9 TALKING Use a fruit or vegetable your child loves. Talk about how it looks, tastes, smells, feels. Where does it grow? Where do you purchase it?	10 SINGING Play music with a fast tempo as you pick up and put away toys. Who can pick up the most toys?	11 COUNTING Compare amounts. You have more crackers than I do. I have more blueberries than you do.
12 READING Vary your voice as you read. Use different facial expressions to help your child learn about feelings.	13 WRITING Draw the outline of your child's hand on a piece of paper. Write the date and have your child 'sign' it.	14 PLAYING Create shadows on a wall and let your child create characters or animals to tell a story.	15 TALKING Take a walk outside. Talk about all you see. Talk about the weather and how it is different than in winter.	16 SINGING Sing or recite Mary Had a Little Lamb. (Words on back. ➡) 	17 COUNTING Count how many birds you see today. Note the location, colour and sounds. Discuss later. Which was your favourite?	18 READING After reading a book together talk about your favourite parts. 
19 WRITING Encourage children to write letters to family members. This can be as simple as drawing a picture and adding a few words or their name.	20 PLAYING Ask your child to create a story using their toys.	21 TALKING At bedtime talk about where various animals sleep at night. 	22 SINGING Play Freeze while dancing to music. When the music stops, everyone must freeze.	23 COUNTING Use a piece of string to measure things. 	24 READING If you haven't done so yet, register for HPL's Summer Reading Club, then read a book about summer. hpl.ca/src	25 WRITING Pick up a historical postcard at the Library and write a fun message to someone special. More info at hpl.ca/postcards .
26 PLAYING Play Riddle Me. I'm bigger than your hand and I'm in the kitchen. What am I? Yes, A banana!	27 TALKING Talk about activities you do in the morning, afternoon and at night.	28 SINGING Play Echo Me. Clap, stomp, or beat a drum and have your child repeat the noise.	29 COUNTING Create a grocery list with your child. Together, look at what you have and decide what you will need to purchase.	30 READING Point out words everywhere you go today.	31 WRITING Spend time drawing together. Make sure to 'sign' your art. 	

You are your child's first teacher, and your home is where your child begins to learn.

Make your home a great place to learn. It doesn't take money to create special places where you and your child can talk, sing, read, write, play and count. Here are a few ideas.

PLACES TO READ

Create a special space for your child to look at books. Have a comfortable chair or pillows and a small shelf or basket for favourite books. Make sure there's room for you and your child to sit together.

PLACES TO WRITE

Make it easy for your child to write throughout the day. Set up a space where your child can go on their own and use easy-to-hold writing materials such as pencils, crayons, or markers and unlined paper.

PLACES TO PLAY

Play requires a little space, simple props, imagination and encouragement. You don't need special toys or expensive electronics. Provide props like large boxes, old clothes or costumes for dress up, empty food containers and empty paper towel rolls. Play comes naturally to young children and is one of the primary ways they learn. Provide plenty of opportunities for your child to play.

B-I-N-G-O

There was a farmer who had a dog
and Bingo was his name-oh.

B-I-N-G-O

B-I-N-G-O

B-I-N-G-O

and Bingo was his name-oh.

There was a farmer who had a dog
and Bingo was his name-oh.

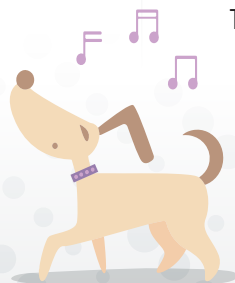
(clap)-I-N-G-O

(clap)-I-N-G-O

(clap)-I-N-G-O

and Bingo was his name-oh.

CONTINUE UNTIL ALL THE LETTERS IN
BINGO'S NAME ARE REPLACED WITH CLAPS.



MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB

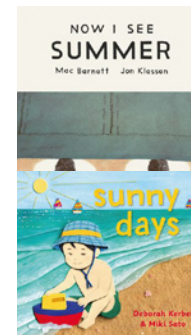
Mary had a little lamb,
Its fleece was white as snow,
And everywhere that Mary went
The lamb was sure to go;
It followed her to school one day
Which was against the rules,
It made the children laugh and play
To see a lamb in school.

Books to Read this Month

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



The Most Magnificent Idea
Ashley Spires



Now I See Summer
Mac Barnett

Sunny Days
Deborah Kerbel

