

# APRIL 2026

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

			<b>1 WRITING</b> Take a walk outside together. When you return home, work together to draw the story of your walk. What did you see?	<b>2 PLAYING</b> 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.	<b>3 TALKING</b> Say a favourite nursery rhyme, but change an important word to something silly. Hickory Dickory Dock, the mouse ran up the tree...	<b>4 SINGING</b> Has it been raining a lot? Sing Rain, Rain, Go Away. (Words on back.)
<b>5 COUNTING</b> Find one spoon, two socks and three books.	<b>6 READING</b> Visit your local branch (in person or online) and borrow books about Spring. 	<b>7 WRITING</b> Create a piece of art. Look at the sky and draw the clouds. Be sure to sign your name. 	<b>8 PLAYING</b> Play Follow the Leader. One person (the leader) performs actions the others must follow. Take turns being the leader.	<b>9 TALKING</b> Go on a nature walk and look for items that start with different letters of the alphabet. For example, "F is for Flower, T is for Tree."	<b>10 SINGING</b> Sing Row, Row, Row Your Boat together. (Words on back.)	<b>11 COUNTING</b> Cut a piece of toast in half. Say "Now we have two pieces the same size." 
<b>12 READING</b> 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?	<b>13 WRITING</b> Make a dot painting with cotton swabs and paint to help develop fine motor skills.	<b>14 PLAYING</b> Cut out large shapes—a square, a triangle, a circle—and place them on the floor. Take turns telling which shapes to step on.	<b>15 TALKING</b> Talk about your day and your child's day. "I'm making breakfast. You're playing with blocks. We're getting ready to go out."	<b>16 SINGING</b> Sing I Hear Thunder. (Words on back.)	<b>17 COUNTING</b> Draw a chalk grid with numbers and ask your child to jump to the numbers you call out.	<b>18 READING</b> Teach letter sounds by playing I Spy. I spy with my little eye something that begins with S. Yes. A spoon.
<b>19 WRITING</b> Label the room. Print the name of the item on sticky notes and place them on three to five objects.	<b>20 PLAYING</b> Go on a circle hunt. Make a list of all the circle-shaped items you find today. 	<b>21 TALKING</b> Choose a word of the day. Print the word together. Use it several times during the course of the day.	<b>22 SINGING</b> Today is Earth Day. Make up a song about what the earth means to you. 	<b>23 COUNTING</b> Count in nature. How many birds, rocks, flowers and trees do you see?	<b>24 READING</b> Place around the room pieces of paper with big letters on each. Help your child find them. Where's the letter A? On the chair.	<b>25 WRITING</b> Write your child's first name in big block letters. Use each letter to write an acrostic poem.
<b>26 PLAYING</b> Make paper bag puppets and play with them. Introduce them to each other. (Instructions on back.)	<b>27 TALKING</b> 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.	<b>28 SINGING</b> Make up melodies to go with everyday activities, like getting dressed or cleaning up. Use familiar tunes and add new lyrics.	<b>29 COUNTING</b> Find a song that includes counting and dance to it.	<b>30 READING</b> Help your child notice words throughout the day. Point out street signs, words on food cartons, billboards and more.		

## 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. Colour 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!

### RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY

Rain, Rain,

Go away;

Come again,

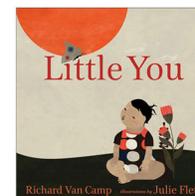
Another day;

Little [child's name]

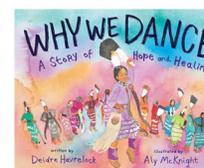
wants to play



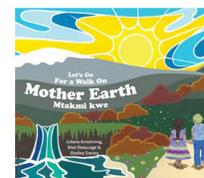
# Books to Read this Month



**Little You**  
Richard Van Camp



**Why We Dance:  
A Story of Hope  
and Healing**  
Deidre Havrelock



**Let's Go for a Walk  
On Planet Earth**  
Juliana Armstrong

## Even More...



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[hpl.ca/how-to-festival](https://hpl.ca/how-to-festival)