

# EARLY LITERACY CALENDAR

APRIL  
2024

## SUNDAY



St. Louis  
County  
Library

## MONDAY

### 1 READ

Read a funny story for April Fool's Day!

## TUESDAY

### 2 TALK

Count to ten using your fingers and toes.

## WEDNESDAY

### 3 SING

Sing "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" during bathtime.

## THURSDAY

### 4 WRITE

Go fishing in the bathtub! Gather small toys or sponges with a strainer or big spoon.

## FRIDAY

### 5 PLAY

Place a few toys in a pile of blankets and cushions. Can you climb through the pile to find the toys?

## SATURDAY

### 6 READ

Read a book with photographs of animals like "Animals Move" by Jane Whittingham.

### 7 TALK

Describe your food while you are eating. Talk about its color, shape, texture, smell and taste.

### 8 SING

Wrap four rubber bands around an open shoe box to make a guitar. Play it while singing along to some of your favorite songs.

### 9 WRITE

Thread pipe cleaners or uncooked spaghetti noodles into the holes of a strainer.

### 10 PLAY

Go outside and splash in puddles on a rainy day.

### 11 READ

Happy birthday, April Pulley Sayre! Read "Bloom Boom!" or another one of her books.

### 12 TALK

Talk on a pretend phone. Your hand, a block or a toy can all be a phone!

### 13 SING

Wave a scarf or washcloth around while dancing to music downloaded from [hoopladigital.com](http://hoopladigital.com).

### 14 WRITE

Write your name on the floor with masking tape. Trace each letter by walking or pushing a car on it.

### 15 PLAY

Play on a swing in a silly way. Lie on your tummy, spin around, or put one leg on either side of the seat.

### 16 READ

Read multiple versions of the same story and talk about how they are alike and how they are different.

### 17 TALK

Talk about concepts like on and off when getting dressed.

### 18 SING

Make up a song about an everyday task.  
♪ *We're putting on our shoes.*  
*We're putting on our shoes.* ♪

### 19 WRITE

Cut up a picture from a magazine. Mix the pieces and put it back together like a puzzle.

### 20 PLAY

Add water, clear glue and glitter to a bottle or jar to make a calming sensory activity.

### 21 TALK

Talk about your feelings as you watch the glitter move in a sensory bottle.

### 22 READ

Read a book about nature to celebrate Earth Day.

### 23 SING

Sing "Good Morning to You" to the tune of "Happy Birthday."

### 24 WRITE

Place several items on the floor. While lying on your belly, reach across your body and grab the items. How quickly can you gather them?

### 25 PLAY

Pretend to be a spider! String yarn between a few chairs to make a web and crawl through it.

### 26 READ

Read a book with a repeated phrase like "Shhh! The Baby's Asleep" by JaNay Brown-Wood.

### 27 TALK

Take a nature walk and talk about spring. What plants and animals do you see?

### 28 SING

Sing a story song like "On Top of Spaghetti!"

### 29 WRITE

Tape a large piece of newspaper or wrapping paper on the wall. Draw, paint, or place stickers on the paper.

### 30 PLAY

Pretend to be a bird. Flap your wings, whistle and tweet your favorite song.

# 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](http://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

Find the rhyming words in the title of the story. What sounds and letters do they share?

### TALK

Look at the illustrations in the story and talk about how the sky changes before, during and after the storm.

### WRITE

Make raindrop art by writing your name with washable markers and spraying or dripping water on the letters.

### PLAY

Lightning is electricity. Experiment with static electricity by placing pepper on a plate, rubbing a plastic spoon or comb on your clothing or hair and holding it over the pepper. What happens?

### READ



"Zap! Clap! Boom!" by Laura Purdie Salas.

### SING

Sing "Mr. Sun" as the thunderstorm stops in the story.

### TALK

Talk about a time when you experienced a thunderstorm. What did you see, hear and do during the storm?

### WRITE



Watch a time-lapse video of storms and create your own thunderstorm art.

### PLAY

Play a game with a ball like the children in the story.

