



January 2025 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten is Chelsea District's Library's easy way to engage in early literacy at home! Reading aloud to your baby or young child is the best way to build foundational skills for lifelong reading and learning. Earn prizes and free books just by reading together with your child! Check out this month's book list and literacy tips to get started.

Librarian Reads

I'm Going to Build a Snowman by Jashar Awan

Wolf in the Snow by Matthew Cordell

It's Snowing! by Gail Gibbons

The Snowy Day by Ezra Keats

The Last Marshmallow by Grace Lin

First Snow by Peter McCarty

First Snow in the Woods by Carl R. Sams

Bundle Up by Jennifer Sattler

Once Upon a Winter Day by Liza Woodruff

Rhyme Time

Dance Like Snowflakes

(Sing each line twice, to the tune of "Frere Jacques")

Dance like snowflakes
(wiggle fingers up and down)

In the air
(wave hands back and forth)

Whirling, twirling snowflakes
(roll hands)

Here and there!
(present arms to side one at a time)

Ready to Read

Create a culture of reading at home and get your child ready to read by building the 5 Practices of Early Literacy into your daily routines. It's easy and fun!

READ

Check out the Early Reader nonfiction books, which cover high interest topics (like trucks and animals) with short sentences, making them perfect informational read-alouds for little ones.

WRITE

On the next snowy day, grab a stick, an icicle, or use your mittened hand to write letters and your child's name in the snow!

SING

Create a dinner playlist of your family's favorite songs to sing while you're preparing dinner. A dance party will make the dinnertime rush a little more fun!

TALK

How is winter different than fall, summer, and spring? Bundle up for a nature walk around a park or your neighborhood and talk about the different things you see (or can't see!) in winter.

PLAY

When it's too cold to play outside, build a reading fort instead! Grab blankets, pillows, snacks, and a stack of favorite books and read the day away.

Daily Fun with Your Little One!

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



Help your child get ready to learn to read! Each day features a fun activity that will help your child build pre-reading skills. Activities are color-coded by skill. Ask your children's librarian for more ideas on how to promote early literacy skills with daily activities at home.

<p>5 Sounds</p> <p>Chirp, tweet, hoot! It's National Bird Day. Ask your child how many different bird sounds she can make.</p>	<p>6 Songs</p> <p>Sing and dance along to The Learning Station's "Boom Chicka Boom" song for kids.</p>	<p>7 Reading</p> <p>Open a book. Ask your child how many words he can find that begin with the first letter of his name.</p>	<p>8 Stories</p> <p>After watching a movie together, have your child make up and tell you a new ending.</p>	<p>9 Science</p> <p>Get 3 marshmallows. Microwave one for 10 seconds, one for 30 seconds, and one for 50 seconds. Ask your child how they're different.</p>	<p>10 Play</p> <p>Ask your child to teach you his favorite game. Let him make up his own rules!</p>	<p>11 Writing</p> <p>Ask your child to draw a picture of her perfect wintery day.</p>
<p>12 Math</p> <p>Give your child an object that's easy to carry. Go around the house and ask him to find objects that are bigger or smaller than the object.</p>	<p>13 Rhymes</p> <p>Go to the library and ask the children's librarian to recommend a rhyming book or two.</p>	<p>14 Sounds</p> <p>Use empty paper towel rolls or wooden spoons as rhythm sticks, play your child's favorite song and have her match the beat.</p>	<p>15 Play</p> <p>Make a blanket fort and climb inside. Bring along your child's favorite stuffed animals.</p>	<p>16 Math</p> <p>It's Appreciate a Dragon Day. Celebrate by reading <i>There Are No Dragons in This Book</i> by Donna Lambo-Weidner</p>	<p>17 Science</p> <p>For Kid Inventors' Day, ask your child what she would invent if she could invent anything she wanted. How would she make it?</p>	<p>18 Math</p> <p>Make snowballs with your child from snow or tissue paper. Ask him to count each one he throws.</p>
<p>19 Reading</p> <p>Collect bottle caps and write your child's name on them (one letter per cap). Jumble the caps together and then ask her to put them in the correct order to spell her name.</p>	<p>20 Science</p> <p>Check out a nonfiction book about your child's favorite animal. Look at the pictures and read the captions together.</p>	<p>21 Sounds</p> <p>Bundle up for a nature walk and talk about what sounds you hear.</p>	<p>22 Stories</p> <p>Have your child tell you a story about what he and his stuffed animals would talk about if his stuffed animals could talk.</p>	<p>23 Writing</p> <p>On Handwriting Day, have your child draw a picture from her favorite book.</p>	<p>24 Songs</p> <p>Sing while you do everyday activities like putting on socks and shoes.</p>	<p>25 Reading</p> <p>Get silly on Opposite Day! Read your child's favorite book to him backwards.</p>
<p>26 Sounds</p> <p>Tap out a beat on a table or counter. Ask your child to copy your beat.</p>	<p>27 Writing</p> <p>It's Crayola Creativity Week. Get free creative resources for you and your child to enjoy at creativity-week.squarespace.com.</p>	<p>28 Math</p> <p>It's International LEGO Day. Set out some large Legos. Count and sort them. Then let the building begin.</p>	<p>29 Stories</p> <p>Ask your child to tell you a story about what she would do if she were a snowman.</p>	<p>30 Songs</p> <p>Listen to two different versions of the same song with your child. Ask him which he liked best and why.</p>	<p>31 Rhymes</p> <p>Put toys or other small objects in a pillowcase. Have your child pick them out one by one and brainstorm words that rhyme with each object.</p>	

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