

October 2026 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

BOO! Baa, La, La, La by Sandra Boynton

Go Away, Big Green Monster
by Ed Emberley

In the Middle of Fall by Kevin Henkes

Fall is Here! by Frankie Jones

Halloween, Baby! by Karen Katz

Apples and Pumpkins by Anne Rockwell

Pick a Pumpkin by Patricia Toht

The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything by Linda Williams

Rhyme Time

5 Little Pumpkins

Five little pumpkins sitting on a gate.
The first one said, "Oh my, it's getting late!"
The second one said, "There are witches in the air."
The third one said, "But we don't care!"
The fourth one said, "Let's run, and run, and run!"
The fifth one said, "Isn't Halloween fun?"
Then oooooooooooooo went the wind,
And out went the light,
And five little pumpkins rolled out of sight!

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

Attend Not-Too-Scary StoryBook Trail on Oct. 19 and read the book as you walk the trail... and trick-or-treat, too! Best for ages 2+. Visit bit.ly/StBoTr for trail info.

WRITE

Have your child draw an original design to carve on their pumpkin! Draw on paper first and use a pushpin to transfer the design to the pumpkin.

SING

Sing familiar tunes in ghoulish voices for extra Halloween fun! How would a ghost sing the alphabet song? How would a werewolf sing "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star?"

TALK

Feelings of fright, excitement, and nervousness are common around Halloween. Talk through them and practice calming techniques before the big night.

PLAY

Get out last year's Halloween costumes for one last day of dress-up before passing them on to the library's Halloween Costume Exchange, happening in the youth area from Oct. 1-31.

Daily Fun with Your Little One!					
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	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.				
	4 Rhymes Take turns rhyming spooky words like "cat" and "bat."	5 Sounds Head outside and find a few crunchy leaves. Can you recreate the crunch sound?	6 Writing Help your child draw candy corn pieces and color each one.	7 Math It's Pumpkin Seed Day. Count pumpkin seeds together and afterwards, roast the seeds in the oven for a tasty snack!	8 Play Using yarn or string, create a spider web in the corner of a room.
11 Reading Take a trip to the library and check out the "new releases" section. Pick out a book to take home.	12 Science Take a few pieces of hard-shelled candies and drop water on them. What happens to the colors?	13 Stories Ask your child to tell you a story about a scarecrow that wants to be friends. What would they do first?	14 Science It's Fossil Day. Take a trip to a local museum and learn about the different fossils together.	15 Rhymes Pick out a book and look for rhyming words on each page. How many can you find?	16 Sounds Say the ABCs like you're a ghost (Aaah, Beee, Ceee, ...).
18 Stories Tell your child about a time you went trick-or-treating as a child and your favorite costume.	19 Writing Set up a whiteboard where your child can practice writing different letters.	20 Songs Rake up a pile of leaves and make up a theme song to play or sing for your child as they jump in!	21 Math Bake banana bread and ask your child to help you measure the different ingredients.	22 Writing Cut out a pumpkin shape using construction paper and ask your child to write their name on it.	23 Play Take a trip to a local pumpkin patch and look at all the different-shaped pumpkins.
25 Math Ask your child to draw a spider and number all eight legs!	26 Reading Visit the local library and look for some spooky books to check out.	27 Math Check the temperature outside. How does it compare to yesterday's temperature? What's the difference?	28 Sounds See if you can find things around the house that make spooky sounds like a creaking door or a barking dog.	29 Writing It's Cat Day. Help your child draw a cat with whiskers, fur, and pointy ears.	30 Stories Read fall-themed stories to your child and ask them to share which one they liked best.
				31 Play It's Halloween! Prepare for the big night by dressing up in costume early in the day and pretending to be whatever you're dressed up as!	31 Play It's Halloween! Prepare for the big night by dressing up in costume early in the day and pretending to be whatever you're dressed up as!
 					
 					

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Log Those Books!

Keep reading, and keep logging those books! Visit the 1000 Books page on the library's website at chelseadistrictlibrary.org/1000books or download the free Beanstack app to log.

ENGAGE.
INSPIRE.
EQUIP.