

Open for Discovery



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Hummelstown, PA 17036
717.566.0949

East Shore Area Library (ESA)
4501 Ethel Street
Harrisburg, PA 17109
717.652.9380

Elizabethville Area Library (EV)
80 North Market Street
Elizabethville, PA 17023
717.362.9825

Johnson Memorial Library (JOH)
799 East Center Street
Millersburg, PA 17061
717.692.2658

Kline Library (KL)
530 South 29th Street
Harrisburg, PA 17104
717.234.3934

Madeline L. Olewine Memorial Library (MOM)
2410 North 3rd Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110
717.232.7286

McCormick Riverfront Library (MRL)
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Harrisburg, PA 17101
717.234.4976

Northern Dauphin Library (ND)
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Lykens, PA 17048
717.523.0340

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Stepping Stones to Milestones

Newsletter

December 2022

Singing



Developed by our team of educators and librarians, Stepping Stones to Milestones is a cohesive storytime experience. We aim to help children get ready to start school and to position parents and caregivers as their child's first teacher. During storytime early literacy development is supported and modeled through these five practices.

1. Singing
2. Talking
3. Reading
4. Writing
5. Playing

These practices that build a rich literacy environment are easy to do and can be done anywhere.

Songs promote language learning!

Singing and listening to music benefits children's mental, linguistic and literacy development. Songs are a natural way to learn about language. Songs slow down language as well as repeating language. This strengthens children's memory and attention.

Try these songs and rhymes at home!

Babies: Andy Pandey

(Bounce baby gently along with the rhyme and move baby to match rhyme)

Andy Pandey Sugar and Candy
All pop down.

Andy Pandey Sugar and Candy
All pop up.

Andy Pandey Sugar and Candy
All pop in.

Andy Pandey Sugar and Candy
All pop out.

Toddlers: Mittens

Mittens are warm,
Mittens are grand,
Mittens are like shoes for my hands.

Preschoolers: Snowflake, Snowflake

Snowflake, Snowflake
Twirl around. (*Twirl around*)
Snowflake, Snowflake
Touch the ground. (*Touch the ground*)
Snowflake, Snowflake
Land on my nose. (Touch your nose)
Snowflake, Snowflake
Freeze my toes. (*Touch your toes*)
Snowflake, Snowflake
In the air. (*Point toward the sky*)
Snowflake, Snowflake
Everywhere! (*Twirl around with arms raised above head.*)

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Booklist

0-3 years

Moo, Baa, Fa La La La La! by Sandra Boynton

Baa, Baa, Black Sheep by Jane Cabrera

The Whales on the Bus by Katrina Charman

Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star by Jerry Pinkney

We are Music by Brandon Stosuy

3-5 years

Five Little Ducks/ by Raffi and illustrated by Jose Aruego and Ariane Dewey

Farmyard Beat by Lindsey Craig

Pitter Pattern by Joyce Hesselberth

Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons by Eric Litwin

Every Little Thing adapted by Cedelia Marley

Old MacDonald Had a ...Zoo? by Iza Trapani



Try one of these musical games at home!

The Freeze:

Play some of your children's favorite music and dance until the music stops. When the music stops, freeze holding your position until the music starts again.

Follow the musical leader:

Take turns being the leader and creating dance steps or movements with the music. Everybody else will follow along with the leader.

Create art to match the music:

Use markers, crayons, and paper to draw what you hear. Demonstrate ways you might draw when slow or fast music plays. How would you draw if loud or soft music is playing?



Find fun music and movement activities on these CDs you can borrow from The Library.

Baby Face: Activities for Infants and Toddlers

Laurie Berkner's Favorite Classic Kids' Songs by Laurie Berkner





Jim Gill's Most Celebrated Songs Volume 1 by Jim Gill

Color me!



December 2022 Activity Calendar

Activities in bold are for all ages. Activities in plain text are good for preschoolers.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 December begins with a D. Name other words that begin with D.	2 Make a scavenger hunt of things you may see outside. Go for walk and see if can find those items.	3 Write the numbers 1 to 10 in pencil then have children trace the numbers using crayon or marker.
4 Recite or sing the "Three Little Kittens who Lost their Mittens."	5 It's National Communicate with Your Child Day. Discuss what toy is your child's favorite.	6 Read a book that shows snow in the illustrations.	7 Join the Winter Reading Challenge at the Library.	8 Recite a favorite nurse rhyme or fingerplay.	9 Write the name of your favorite cookie. 	10 Bake some cookies and have children help measure ingredients.
11 Explore the scent of spices or herbs used in cookies. 	12 It's Gingerbread House Day. Assemble a kit or use paper to make a gingerbread house craft.	13 Count the number of clothes you put on to go outside	14 Sock match. Have your child pair up socks then count how many pairs.	15 Pretend to be an animal that likes cold weather. What animal will you be?	16 Take a ride to see the holiday lights. Have children identify the colors.	17 Visit the library.
18 Have a family sign-along. Each member picks a song.	19 Play hide and seek with a small stuffed animal. Give hot and cold clues.	20 Use playdough to make a snowman. 	21 It's the first day of Winter. Read a book about winter.	22 Use flashlights to make shadow puppets on the wall.	23 Create holiday or other greeting cards to give to family.	24 Talk about family holiday traditions and look at photos. 
25 Sing your favorite songs of the season.	26 Make a holiday decoration of your choice and display.	27 December is the 12 th month. Collect 12 items and sort them by size.	28 Use blocks to build a home for a snowman.	29 List words that rhyme with <u>cold</u> .	30 Read a favorite book, then read a new one.	31 Talk about a favorite thing that happened in 2022.

Register for Winter 2023 Storytimes beginning December 26, 2022 at 10:00 AM.