



**Stepping Stones
to Milestones**

Newsletter

May 2022

Writing



THE DAUPHIN COUNTY
LIBRARY SYSTEM
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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.

Writing

Writing and reading go together. For young children, writing begins with scribbling and drawing. Give children lots of opportunities to scribble and draw. Provide writing tools like pencils, washable markers, crayons, and paper. Encourage children to use drawing to express ideas and tell stories.

Show your child that written words are part of daily life. Let them see you write a grocery list, write your name and your child's name, or point out writing on signs.

Try these rhymes at home!

Babies: A Bouncing We Will Go

(Lap bounce song)

A bouncing we will go, a bouncing we will go
Hi ho the derry o
A bouncing we will go
A rocking we will go...
A tickling we will go...
The arms go up and down...
Legs go back and forth...

Toddlers: Five Little Rabbits (fingerplay)

Five little rabbits went hop, hop, hop.
Children called out, "Stop, stop, stop!"
The first rabbit said, "Run, run, run!"
The second rabbit laughed, "Fun, fun, fun!"
The third rabbit's foot went thump, thump, thump.
The fourth rabbit went jump, jump, jump.
The fifth rabbit came in creep, creep, creep.
The five rabbits yawned and went to sleep, sleep, sleep

Preschoolers: Ten Fat Sausages

(fingerplay)

Ten fat sausages sizzling in a pan (hold up ten fingers)
All of a sudden one went BANG! (clap hands on loud bang!)
Nine fat sausages sizzling in a pan,
All of a sudden one went BANG! ...
Continue counting down until there are none.



Booklist

0-3 years

My Very First Book of Shapes/ Eric Carle

A Little Book About ABCs/ Leo Lionni

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom/ Bill Martin Jr.

Beautiful Oops! / Barney Saltzberg

3-5 years

3-5 years

Penguins Love Their ABC's/ Sarah Aspinall

I Found a Kitty! / Troy Cummings

We are in a Book! / Mo Willems

Shapes at Play/ Silvia Borando

Harold and the Purple Crayon/ Crockett Johnson

Little Plane Learns to Write/ Stephen Savage

Rocket Writes a Story/ Tad Hills



Try these fun writing activities at home!

1. Beads and Playdough:

Push beads into playdough to form letters. Have children push the playdough into a plastic lid to form a flat surface. Children then press beads into the playdough in the shape of a letter. If you don't have beads, you can use macaroni pasta or some other small items.

2. Sandpaper letters.

Use sandpaper to cut out different letters and attach to a piece of cardboard. Children can trace the letters with their fingers or even make a rubbing of the letter using paper and crayons.

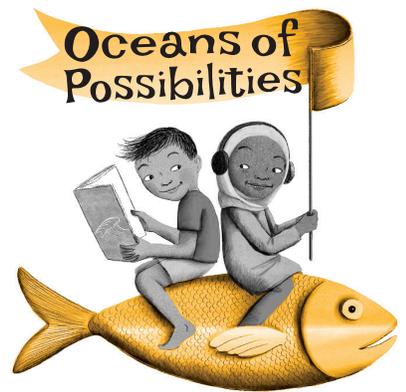
3. Paint brushes:

Use paint and paintbrushes to create a picture. Painting with the paintbrush will help develop the fine motor control used when writing.

4. Writing names:

Help children write their names. Children are empowered by writing their names and it helps them begin to identify themselves as writers.

Coming this summer...



Registration for this year's Summer Reading Challenge begins June 1, 2022.

Daily Early Literacy Activities

Activities in bold print are for all ages. Activities in plain text are good to share with preschoolers.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Talk about things that begin with “m” like the month of May.	2 What rhymes with May? Can you name three words?	3 Sing a silly song together. 	4 Have your child look for all the stop signs as you drive. Name the letters in the word “Stop”.	5 Prepare tacos together in honor of Cinco de mayo. 	6 Have your child help make a grocery list. Have them watch as you write out the list. Guide an older child as he adds an item to the list.	7 Go outside and blow bubbles. Use different shaped bubble wands. Do they make different shaped bubbles?
8 Read a book featuring a mother.	9 Make a pattern using small toys, letters, or numbers. xxooxxooxxoo	10 Gather some silly clothes and play dress up.	11 Make a paper airplane together. Have your child decorate the plane with crayons or markers.	12 Fill a plate with salt and have your child draw the letters of their name in the salt.	13 Have a circle day. Find things around the house that are shaped like circles. Have a circle-shaped snack.	14 Sing a lap bounce song while gently bouncing child on your lap. See page one for a sample.
15 Put on some music and dance together.	16 Sing “Old MacDonald Had a Farm” 	17 Make a farm picture. Ask your child to describe what they drew.	18 Act out a fairy tale like the <i>Three Billy Goats Gruff</i> .	19 Heavy or light? Explore some household items. Find 2 heavy items and 2 light items.	20 Find a sunny or shady spot to share a book.	21 Visit your local library and check out some books about farm animals.
22 Ask your child what their favorite farm animal is. Ask them to explain what they like about that animal.	23 Have children practice using scissors by cutting out pictures of food from grocery store flyers.	24 Use your finger to follow along as you read a book to your child.	25 Sing the ABC song at different speeds.	26 Count the number of snack items served at snack time.	27 Go outside and listen to the birds. Ask your child to make up a bird call. 	28 In or out? Use a box and help your child as they get in and out while matching the word to the action. Use a stuffed animal with younger children.
29 Color with your child. Show them how to make circles and lines.	30 Sing a fingerplay like “Five Little Rabbits” on page one.	31 Read a book with rhyming text and find the rhymes together.				

Open for Discovery



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200 West 2nd Street
Hummelstown, PA 17036
717.566.0949

Madeline L. Olewine Memorial Library (MOM)

2410 North 3rd Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110
717.232.7286

East Shore Area Library (ESA)

4501 Ethel Street
Harrisburg, PA 17109
717.652.9380

McCormick Riverfront Library (MRL)

101 Walnut Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
717.234.4976

Elizabethville Area Library (EV)

80 North Market Street
Elizabethville, PA 17023
717.362.9825

Northern Dauphin Library (ND)

683 Main Street
Lykens, PA 17048
717.523.0340

Johnson Memorial Library (JOH)

799 East Center Street
Millersburg, PA 17061
717.692.2658

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Kline Library (KL)

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