

Good readers have a large vocabulary.

Knowing lots of words helps children better understand what they read. You can help your children learn lots of words by:

- Having plenty of conversations. Take turns talking. It is important for you to ask questions and listen to what your children say in response.
- Read together! A lot!
- Make connections. Connect what you are reading in books to their lives. "Yes, Grandma has a black cat, too."
- Repetition. Children often love to read the same book over and over. This is a good thing as repeated readings help build vocabulary.



FIVE LITTLE DUCKS

Five little ducks
Went out one day
Over the hills and
far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack,
quack, quack"
But only four little
ducks came back.

Three little ducks
Went out one day
Over the hills and
far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack,
quack, quack."
But only two little
ducks came back.

One little duck
Went out one day
Over the hills and
far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack,
quack, quack."
But none of the five
little ducks came
back.

Four little ducks
Went out one day
Over the hills and
far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack,
quack, quack."
But only three little
ducks came back.

Two little ducks
Went out one day
Over the hills and
far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack,
quack, quack."
But only one little
duck came back.

Sad mother duck
Went out one day
Over the hills and
far away
The sad mother
duck said
"Quack, quack,
quack, quack."
And all of the five
little ducks came
back.

THE FARMER PLANTS THE SEEDS

*Sing to the tune
"The Farmer in the Dell"*

The Farmer plants the seeds,

The Farmer plants the seeds,
(Pretend to plant seeds)

Hi, ho, the dairy-o,

The farmer plants the seeds.

The sun comes out to shine...
(Make large circle with arms)

The rain begins to fall...
(Hands flutter up and down)

The seeds begin to grow...
(Stand up tall)

The farmer picks the crops...
(Pretend to pick crops)

We all sit down to eat...
(Pretend to eat)

Books to Read this Month

Check out these books at the library. If they are not available, ask the librarian for a recommendation.

FOR READERS AGES 0-3

Who? A Celebration of Babies

by Robie Harris

Lola Plants a Garden

by Anna McQuinn

FOR READERS AGES 3+

Planting a Rainbow

by Lois Ehlert

Alma and How She Got Her Name

by Juana Martinez-Neal



MAY 2020

Daily literacy-building activities to share with your child.



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1 WRITING

Letters are everywhere. Draw your child's name and talk about each one, naming other words that also begin with the letters.

2 PLAYING

Go on an outside scavenger hunt. Bring a list and check off the things you see.

3 TALKING

Say as many words as you can that rhyme with "May."

4 SINGING

Use a homemade shaker and shake it to the beat of songs.

5 COUNTING

Go for a walk. Take two big steps. Take three large steps. Count how many steps from your door to the sidewalk.

6 READING

Read a book about mothers. The library can help you find one.

7 WRITING

Make a Mother's Day card and have your child sign his or her name.

8 PLAYING

Play "Riddle Me."

I'm big, yellow, and hot. Yes! I am the sun!

9 TALKING

Talk about feelings you felt today. What made you laugh?

10 SINGING

Sing "The Farmer Plants the Seeds." (*Words are on the back.*)

11 COUNTING

Recite the Nursery Rhyme "Five Little Ducks." (*Words are on the back.*)

12 READING

Draw out a story on 4-5 small pieces of paper. Help your child put the papers in proper sequence to tell the story.

13 WRITING

Playing with play dough strengthens muscles needed for writing. Roll dough into balls, press fingers into the dough, and make shapes.

14 PLAYING

Play a rhyming game, where you choose a word and then come up with as many rhyming words as you can. Dog, frog, hog, log.

15 TALKING

Look for signs of spring. Go for a walk and talk about what you see. Point out new grass, birds, first flowers, leaf buds.

16 SINGING

Sing a favorite song. Sing it fast, sing it slow.

17 COUNTING

Ask questions about what is heavier. Does an orange or a grape weigh more? Is Mom's jacket or your jacket heavier?

18 READING

Look into your library's summer reading program.

19 WRITING

Draw a large alphabet. Have your child practice tracing or coloring the letters while you say the letters out loud.

20 PLAYING

Go on an outside scavenger hunt. Look for shapes. How many different shapes can you find?

21 TALKING

Today is Thursday. Talk about the days of the week. What does your family do on each day?

22 SINGING

Play children's songs. Sing and dance together.

23 COUNTING

Draw squares, circles, and triangles on the sidewalk with chalk. Count how many there are of each shape.

24 READING

Read books about Spring.

25 WRITING

Help your child begin to recognize words for a few common objects by putting labels on them (shoe, chair, door, etc.)

26 PLAYING

Have a music parade with different instruments. Pretend to play the tuba, the drums, etc.

27 TALKING

When you are reading a new book stop before you get to the end and ask your child what he or she thinks will happen next.

28 SINGING

Sing the Alphabet song. Take turns singing parts of it.

You: ABCDEFG Child: HIJKLMN OP
You: QRS Child: TUV You: WX
Child: Y and Z + ending.

29 COUNTING

Count the number of eggs in a carton. Explain that 12 items together is also called a dozen.

30 READING

Take pictures your child has drawn, staple or bind them together, and ask your child to tell you a story about the pictures.

31 WRITING

Practice drawing shapes and letters in a tray of rice.