



## Did you know ...



During the summer, schedules change and routines are sometimes harder to maintain. It is important to keep reading, talking, singing, writing, and playing with your child so their early literacy skills continue to grow. Studies show that children who do not keep their reading routines over the summer can *lose* many of the skills they developed during the school year. Look for programs at your library or in the community that will be fun and provide opportunities for your kindergartner to learn.

Be sure to sign up for summer library programs, where prizes can be earned for reading and learning with your child. Most Idaho public libraries offer a summer program, and library programs are free!

## Here's how ...

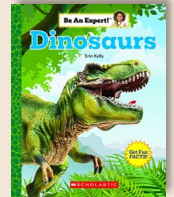


- ✦ Choose a quiet spot for you and your child to read aloud 15 – 20 minutes each day.
- ✦ Take books and writing supplies with you when you leave home so that your child can read and write wherever you go.
- ✦ Get your child (or family) a library card at your local public library. It's free for most people. Some libraries offer free summer cards for those who live out of the taxing district.
- ✦ Let your child pick out books they enjoy, even if you have to read the same books over and over.
- ✦ Check out audiobooks from the library. Children learn a lot about reading by listening, especially about how words and phrases sound.

## Read



### **Be An Expert! Dinosaurs by Erin Kelly**



Children this age love learning about dinosaurs! Full of short facts, questions and answers, and dinosaur challenges, you and your child will have fun learning and becoming dino experts together.

Here is a website that will teach you how to say the dinosaur names in this book:

[www.kids-dinosaurs.com/](http://www.kids-dinosaurs.com/)

## Choose Books



### **UNEARTH A STORY™**



This year many libraries will design their summer programs with a “pre-historic” theme. Here are some fun dinosaur-related books to look for at your library:

*The Dinosaur Book: Our World in Pictures* by John Woodward (DK Smithsonian)

*How to Care for Your T-Rex* by Ken Baker

*If You Happen to Have a Dinosaur* by Linda Bailey

*Lifesize Dinosaurs* by Sophy Henn

*Mega-Predators of the Past* by Melissa Stewart

*Ten Terrible Dinosaurs* by Paul Stickland

*Tiny T. Rex and the Impossible Hug* by Jonathan Stutzman

## Talk



Research shows us that the more we talk with children, the more words they add to their “vocabulary banks.” Children who know and understand thousands of rich words will have an easier time learning to read. Here is an example:

*Meg is hipple when she roffs with her mom.*

A child could sound out the words “hipple” and “roffs” and read the sentence correctly; however, if the child has never heard those words, they will have a difficult time knowing what the sentence means.

As you talk with your child, ask them questions, and help them use lots of describing words.

## Write



Help your child write the first letter of their name, then make it into a picture of a dinosaur or monster.

## Sing



### Dino Pokey

*(To the tune of “The Hokey Pokey”)*

You put your claws in,  
You take your claws out,  
You put your claws in  
And you scratch them all about.  
You do the Dino Pokey  
And you turn yourself around.  
That's what it's all about!

*Additional verses:*

You put your feet in... stomp them all about.  
You put your horns in... scratch them all about.  
You put your teeth in...chomp them all about.  
You put your tail in...swing it all about.

*~ From the King County Library System*

<https://kcls.org/content/Hokey-Pokey/>



## Play



### Dinosaur Rhyme

With tiny brains (*fist to head*)  
And great big tails (*sweep hands behind self*)  
Dinosaurs can be as big as whales!  
(*hand creating large path low to high above head*)  
They never giggle (*pretend to laugh*)  
They never weep (*pretend to cry*)  
They just eat – chomp chomp  
(*bend forward and make chewing motion*)  
And eat- chomp chomp  
And eat – chomp chomp  
And sleep!  
(*rest head on hands, snore as loud as you can!*)

**From the Colorado Libraries for  
Early Literacy**

[www.storyblocks.org/project/  
dinosaur-rhyme/](http://www.storyblocks.org/project/dinosaur-rhyme/)

## At your library ...



Be sure to check your library’s website and/or Facebook page for special summer activities in the library and out in the community!