

## Did you know...



Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing *before* they actually learn to read and write. Helping your child develop early literacy skills will build a foundation for reading so that when they are taught to read they are ready. You can start at birth!

Reading aloud with your kindergartener every day and teaching them about the world around them are practices that help prepare children to learn to read.

This monthly newsletter will help you become more familiar with early literacy skills, and it contains tips and activities you can try at home with your child. "The Bookworm" is published monthly for three age groups: Babies and Toddlers, Preschool, and Kindergarten. You can find more "Bookworms," as well as versions in Spanish, at <https://libraries.idaho.gov/publications/bookworm/>.

## Here's how...

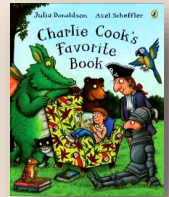


- ✦ Choose a quiet spot for you and your child to read aloud 15 – 20 minutes each day.
- ✦ Keep books and other reading materials where your child can reach them.
- ✦ Take books and writing supplies with you when you leave home so that your child can read and write wherever you go.
- ✦ Show your child how you read every day for fun and work (novels, newspapers, magazines, etc.).
- ✦ Visit the library or bookstore with your child to attend storytimes and choose books to read at home.

## Read



### **Charlie Cook's Favorite Book, by Julia Donaldson**



This story is a circular tale. The story begins with Charlie Cook, then each new character reads about the next, and the story ends with Charlie Cook again. Illustrator Axel Scheffler has created pages full of detailed pictures for children to explore so that each time you read the story with your child there is something new to discover!

## Choose Books



### **More great books by this author-illustrator team:**

*The Gruffalo*

*The Gruffalo's Child*

*The Spiffiest Giant in Town*

*Stick Man*

*The Snail and the Whale*

*Room on the Broom*

*A Squash and a Sneeze*

*Superworm*

*A Gold Star for Zog*

*Where's My Mom?*



## Talk

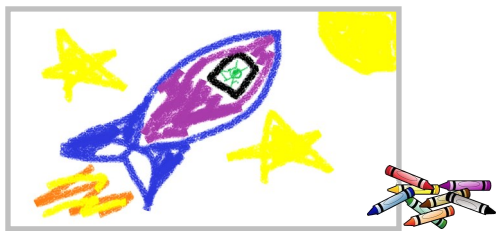


Studies show that when parents and caregivers talk with their children throughout the day, those children learn more words and are better able to learn to read. Asking your child questions about their day, explaining what you're doing as you do it, and talking about what you see as you're out and about are ways to talk *with*, rather than *at*, your child.

## Write



Drawing helps your kindergartener develop the fine motor skills needed to hold a pencil and write letters. Give your child some crayons and paper and let her draw something from the story. Ask her to tell you about it. Help her write her name on the picture.



## Play



### Action Rhyme: Storytime

When the sun lights up the sky,  
*(wave arms above head)*

I sit right up and rub my eyes.  
*(rub eyes)*

I dress myself with greatest care,  
*(pretend to step into pants)*

I brush my teeth and comb my hair.  
*(pretend to brush teeth and comb hair)*

Then off to the library I go,  
*(march in place)*

To hear the stories that I love so.

*Visit your local public library for storytimes, fun activities, and much more!*

## Sing



### If You're Happy and You Know It, Share a Book

If you're happy and you know it, share a book.  
If you're happy and you know it share a book.  
If you're happy and you know  
and you really want to show it,  
If you're happy and you know it share a book!

*More verses:*

- sing a song
- play a game
- write a story
- tell a tale
- go to storytime



Hear the tune, "If You're Happy and You Know It" at [www.thelearninggroove.com/if-youre-happy-and-you-know-it](http://www.thelearninggroove.com/if-youre-happy-and-you-know-it).

## At your library...



Your library offers many free resources to help you build your child's early literacy skills such as age-appropriate books, music, storytimes, parent workshops, booklists, take-home activities, and events for the whole family!