



Did you know ...



Summertime is a great time to keep reading, talking, singing, writing, and playing with your young child so they can continue building early literacy skills.

Take time to go to the park and bring books with you for an outdoor storytime. Make reading bedtime stories a family tradition and sing songs as you take walks around your neighborhood. Play games with your child so they learn to follow directions and take turns. Talk to your child during routines like grocery shopping and bath time.

Visit your local public library to borrow books and games, or use the library's online services. Be sure to sign up for the library's summer reading program, where prizes can be earned for reading to your child or doing fun activities. Library programs are free!

Here's how ...

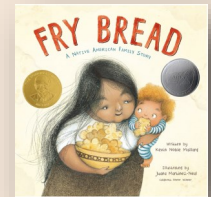


- ❖ Choose a quiet spot for you and your child to read aloud 15 – 20 minutes each day.
- ❖ Keep books in your bag and in the car. When you have wait time in an office or while you are driving, books can keep your child interested and engaged.
- ❖ Get your child (or family) a library card at your local 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. When children choose books they enjoy, they love to learn reading and become better readers when they start school.

Read



***Fry Bread*, by Kevin Noble Maillard**



This award-winning book tells the story of family, traditions, strength, celebration, history, culture, and love—all wrapped up in a delicious family recipe. What stories can you tell your child through your own favorite family recipes?

Choosing Books



This year many libraries will design their summer programs with “kindness,” “family,” “friendship,” and “community” in mind.

Here are some fun books to look for:

- A Big Mooncake for Little Star*, by Grace Lin
- The Colors of Us*, by Karen Katz
- I Dream of Popo*, by Livia Blackburne
- I Love Saturdays y domingos*, by Alma Flor Ada
- In My Heart*, by Molly Bang
- Our Little Kitchen*, by Jillian Tamaki
- Pancakes for Breakfast*, by Tomie dePaola
- Thank You, Omu!*, by Oge Mora
- The Year We Learned to Fly*, by Jacqueline Woodson
- Too Many Tamales*, by Gary Soto
- We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga*, by Traci Sorell



Talk



Storytelling is an art that you can practice with your child. In some countries they pass stories down from generation to generation by telling them instead of writing them. Have your child tell you a story about something that has happened to them. Encourage them to add details to the story by asking open-ended questions at the end of the story — who, what, when, where, why.

Write



Help your child create a book with four or five simple family recipes. Using several pieces of paper, fold the stack in half then staple together. Write out the recipes, then ask your child to draw pictures of your family making the food.



Play



Grandma's Glasses

These are grandma's glasses.

(Make circles around eyes)

This is grandma's hat.

(Cup hands and place on head)

And this is the way she folds her hands
and puts them in her lap.

(Fold hands and put them in your lap)

(Say with a deep voice:)

These are grandpa's glasses.

(Make circles around eyes)

This is grandpa's hat.

(Pretend to put on a hat)

And this is the way he folds his arms

(Cross arms and fold)

Just like that!



Sing



My Auntie Monica

(Match body movements to words)

I have an aunt who dances, my Auntie Monica,
and when we go out dancing
they all say, "Ooh, la, la!"
Ooh, la, la, ooh, la, la.

She likes to move her eyes,
like this, like this, like this.
She likes to spin and spin around,
Like this, like this, like this. Oh!

Repeat with:

She likes to move her head.
She likes to move her shoulders.
She likes to move her hands.
She likes to move her hips.
She likes to move her feet.
She likes to move her body.

See a version of this song from the King
County Library System: [https://kcls.org/
content/tia-monica-the-ooo-la-la-
dancing-song/](https://kcls.org/content/tia-monica-the-ooo-la-la-dancing-song/)



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!