

## 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 ...

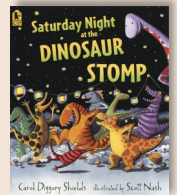


- ❖ Choose a quiet spot for you and your child to read aloud 15 – 20 minutes each day.
- ❖ Keep books in your bag and in the car. When you have wait time in an office or while you are driving, books can keep your child interested and engaged.
- ❖ Get your child (or family) a library card at your local 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



### ***Saturday Night at the Dinosaur Stomp*** by Carol Diggory Shields



"They played in rhythm, they sang in rhyme, dinosaur music in dinosaur time!" This is a great read-aloud book with colorful and wacky illustrations. Here is a website that tells how to say the names of the dinosaurs: [www.kids-dinosaurs.com](http://www.kids-dinosaurs.com)

## Choosing 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:

*Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs* by Mo Willems

*Here We Go Digging for Dinosaur Bones* by Susan Lendroth

*National Geographic Little Kids First Big Book of Dinosaurs* by Catherine D. Hughes

*Stomp and Chomp: My First Book of Dinosaurs* by Simon Mole

*Tyrannosaurus Wrecks!: A Preschool Story* by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen

*We Are the Dinosaurs* by Laurie Berkner

*Whose Dinosaur Bones Are Those?* by Chihiro Takeuchi

## Talk



Children's picture books contain more rare words than what is heard on television or YouTube videos. As you read with your child each day, talk about some of the rare words you run across rather than finding simpler words to replace them. If you're not sure what the word means, look it up together or ask someone else. This is good modeling for your child.

## Write



Give your child some crayons and let them draw a picture of a dinosaur or monster. Ask them to tell you about it, then help them label it with a name or description.

## Play



### Fingerplay: Five Enormous Dinosaurs

*Start with five fingers held up. Each time a dinosaur goes away put one finger down.*

Five enormous dinosaurs,  
letting out a roar (*give a loud roar*),  
One went away, and then there were four.

Four enormous dinosaurs,  
munching on a tree (*pretend to munch*),  
One went away, and then there were three.

Three enormous dinosaurs,  
didn't know what to do (*shake your head "no"*),  
One went away, and then there were two.

Two enormous dinosaurs,  
Having lots of fun (*wiggle your body*),  
One went away, and then there was one.

One enormous dinosaur,  
Left all alone (*pretend to cry*),  
He went away, and then there were none!  
(*show empty hands for "all gone"*)

~ from the Hennepin County Library



## Sing



### If You're a Great Big Dinosaur

*(Tune: "If You're Happy and You Know It")*

If you're a great big dinosaur,  
Show your claws.

If you're a great big dinosaur  
Show your claws.

If you're a great big dinosaur  
Then give a great big roar (ROAR)!

If you're a great big dinosaur  
Show your claws.

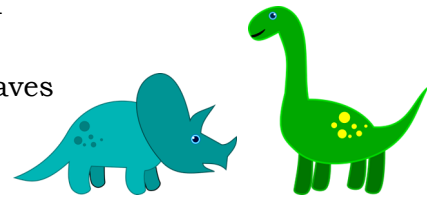
Additional verses:

... show your teeth

... wiggle your tail

... munch some leaves

... stomp your feet



Hear this tune 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 ...



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