

## 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.

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...

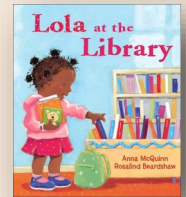


- ✦ Choose a quiet spot for you and your child to read aloud 15 – 20 minutes each day.
- ✦ Keep books and other reading materials where your child can reach them.
- ✦ Take books and writing supplies with you when you leave home so that your child can read and write wherever you go.
- ✦ Share rhymes and songs that young children enjoy, every day (*see page 2 for examples*).
- ✦ 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



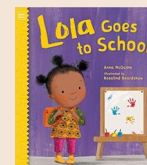
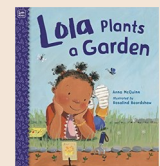
### ***Lola at the Library*, by Anna McQuinn**



Lola loves Tuesdays because that is the day she and her mother go to the library.

Everything about the trip is an exciting adventure, but the best time of all is when Mommy reads her a story at bedtime. Simple text and large, bright pictures make this book just right for sharing.

Other Lola books:



## Choosing Books



### **More books like *Lola at the Library*:**

*Beatrice Doesn't Want To*, by Laura Numeroff

*Book Fiesta!* by Pat Mora

*Library Lion*, by Michelle Knudson

*Llama Llama Loves to Read*, by Anna Dewdney

*Madeline Finn and the Library Dog*, by Lisa Papp

*Maybe a Bear Ate It*, by Robie Harris

*Rin, Rin, Rin: Do, Re, Mi*, by Jose-Luis Orozco

## 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 preschooler develop the fine motor skills needed to hold a pencil and write letters.

Gather some crayons and paper, and ask your child to draw a picture of their family. At this age people may not have bodies, and arms and legs may be sticking out of heads. As your child gets older, their drawings will begin to show more detail.



## Play



### Storytime Action Rhyme

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 story hour I go,  
*(march in place)*

To hear the stories that I love so.  
*(open hands like a book)*

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

## Sing



### I Like to Go to School!

*(To the tune of Farmer in the Dell)*

I like to go to school.  
I like to go to school.  
Heigh-ho-the-derry-oh,  
I like to go to school.

I like to sing new songs.  
I like to sing new songs.  
Heigh-ho-the-derry-oh,  
I like to sing new songs.

*Additional verses:*

I like to play with friends...

I like to read my books...

I like to build with blocks...

I like to draw with crayons...

*Make up your own verses!*

To hear the tune go to  
[www.bussongs.com/songs/the-farmer-in-the-dell](http://www.bussongs.com/songs/the-farmer-in-the-dell)



## 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!