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200 West 2nd Street
Hummelstown, PA 17036
717.566.0949

East Shore Area Library (ESA)
4501 Ethel Street
Harrisburg, PA 17109
717.652.9380

Elizabethville Area Library (EV)
80 North Market Street
Elizabethville, PA 17023
717.362.9825

Johnson Memorial Library (JOH)
799 East Center Street
Millersburg, PA 17061
717.692.2658

George & Hettie Love Memorial Library (LOV)
530 South 29th Street
Harrisburg, PA 17104
717.234.3934

Madeline L. Olewine Memorial Library (MOM)
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Harrisburg, PA 17110
717.232.7286

McCormick Riverfront Library (MRL)
101 Walnut Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
717.234.4976

Northern Dauphin Library (ND)
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Lykens, PA 17048
717.523.0340

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Stepping Stones to Milestones

Stepping Stones to Milestones receives generous grant funding from the Dorothy B. & S. Lawrence Koplovitz Foundation.

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Stepping Stones to Milestones

Newsletter

November 2026

Reading

THE LIBRARY | DAUPHIN COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
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Developed by our team of educators and librarians, Stepping Stones to Milestones is a cohesive storytime experience. We aim to help children get ready to start school and to position parents and caregivers as their child's first teacher. During storytime early literacy development is supported and modeled through these five practices.

1. **Singing**
2. **Talking**
3. **Reading**
4. **Writing**
5. **Playing**

These practices that build a rich literacy environment are easy to do and can be done anywhere.

Letter Jumping Game

Use sidewalk chalk to write letters on the pavement or sidewalk. Call out a letter and have your child jump on it.



Try these songs or rhymes at home!

Babies (Tickle Rhyme): "Baby's Fingers"

These are baby's fingers *(touch fingers)*
These are baby's toes *(touch toes)*
This is baby's belly button *(touch stomach)*
Round and round it goes! *(tickle)*

Toddlers:



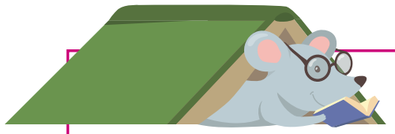
A turkey is a silly bird.
His head goes wobble, wobble.
And all he knows is just one word.
Gobble, gobble, gobble.

Preschoolers: Turkey Dinner
Sung to "*Are You Sleeping*"



Turkey dinner, turkey dinner
Gather round, gather round
Who will get the drumstick?
Yummy, yummy, drumstick
All sit down. All Sit down.

Turkey dinner, turkey dinner
Let's give thanks. Let's give thanks.
Family, friends, and others
gather round the table
for the feast, for the feast.



November Booklist

0-3 years

Applesauce is Fun to Wear by Nancy Raines Day
We All Play = Kimêtawânaw by Julie Flett
The ABCs of Fall by Jill Howarth
Otis Gives Thanks by Loren Long
Lola Loves Stories by Anna McQuinn
"More More More" Said the Baby by Vera B. Williams



3-5 years

Grace For President by Kelly DiPucchio
Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story by Kevin Noble Maillard
Thank You, Mama by Linda Meeker
If You Make a Call on a Banana Phone by Gideon Sterer
Simple Thanks by Deborah Wiles
How Do Dinosaurs Learn to Read by Jane Yolen

Sing: Ho, ho watanay (Iroquois lullaby)

Ho ho watanay
Ho ho watanay
Ho ho, watanay
Ki-yo-ke-na
Ki-yo-ke-na



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TiX5APZyTcc

English translation:

Sleep, sleep, my little one
Sleep, sleep, my little one
Sleep, sleep, my little one
Now go to sleep
Now go to sleep

Six Early Literacy Skills That Prepare Children for Learning How to Read

Print Motivation: A child's interest and enjoyment of books

Print Awareness: Understanding that print carries meaning and that books work in specific ways like reading from left to right.

Letter Knowledge: Recognizing that letters have different shapes, names, and sounds.

Phonological Awareness: The ability to hear and play with the smaller sounds in spoken words.

Vocabulary: Knowing the names of things

Narrative Skills: Being able to describe things and tell stories.

Help your child develop these skills by sharing books with them often. Make book sharing time enjoyable by choosing developmentally appropriate books. Point to letters and pictures and ask questions.



November 2026 Stepping Stones to Milestones Schedule
Session 7 runs November 1, 2026 – December 5, 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
All Ages Storytime 9:30 AM ESA	**Born to Read** 9:30 AM ESA	**Toddler Storytime** 9:30 AM ESA	**Preschool Storytime** 10:15 AM LOV	**Preschool Storytime** 9:15 AM ESA	
Toddler Storytime 10:15 EV	**Born to Read** 10:15 AM EV	**All Ages Storytime** 10:15 AM MOM	**Preschool Storytime** 10:15 AM AFL	**Preschool Storytime** 10:15 AM ND	
	Toddler Storytime 10:15 AM AFL	**Born to Read** 10:15 AM AFL	**Preschool Storytime** 10:15 AM EV	**Born to Read** 10:15 AM LOV	
	Toddler Storytime 10:15 AM LOV	**Toddler Storytime** 10:15 AM EV	**Toddler Storytime** 10:15 AM ND	**Born to Read** 10:30 AM ESA	
	Preschool Storytime 11:00 AM ESA	**Toddler Storytime** 11:00 AM ESA			





Leaf Rubbings

Make a picture using leaf rubbings. Place leaves under paper and rub the side of a crayon gently over the paper. Use different types of leaves and different colors of crayons.



November 2026 Early Literacy Activity Calendar

Activities in bold print are for all ages. Activities in plain text are good to share with preschoolers.

1 Create a list of things to do in November and post it where everyone can see it.	2 November begins with letter N. Practice writing letter N. N n	**3** It's National Sandwich Day. Have children help make a sandwich, counting the ingredients.	**4** **Play "I Spy" with rhyming words. I spy something that rhymes with rock. What is it?**	5 **Have a singalong with each family member picking a song.** 	**6** **Visit the library!** 	**7** **Enjoy some outdoor time. Match leaves to the trees they came from.**
8 **Fill a tub with water. Let children test if mini pumpkins, small gourds, and leaves sink or float.**	**9** **Happy Birthday Lois Ehlert! Read a book by this author.**	**10** **Recite a favorite nursery rhyme then name which words rhyme.**	**11** **Use an empty container as a drum. March to the rhythm that you tap out.**	**12** Practice writing your name using a pencil. 	**13** **Use painters' tape to attach small toys to a wall and have children explore how to remove the toys.**	14 Make popcorn and discuss what makes the kernels pop. 
15 It is America Recycles Day. Use cardboard toilet tissue tubes to make napkin holders.	16 It's National Button day. Practice buttoning shirts or jackets. 	**17** **Read a book about family.** 	**18** **Sing the song "Turkey Dinner" found in the newsletter.** 	**19** **Make animal sounds for turkeys, chickens, and other farm animals.**	**20** **Eat food new to you. What does it taste like?** 	21 Make a noodle or cereal necklace by threading pieces onto yarn or string. How many pieces do you use?
22 Make a shopping list together. Draw pictures of items you would like to purchase.	23 Have children name words that rhyme with thanks.	**24** **Provide different types of fruits or vegetables for children to touch, smell and taste. Older children can share their observations.**	**25** **Happy Birthday Marc Brown. Read a book by this author.**	26 Take turns discussing things for which you are thankful. 	27 Have children draw a picture of something they are thankful for.	**28** **Play a favorite song from when you were a child and dance along.** 
29 **Visit the library!** 	**30** **Play catch with a football or other type of ball.** 					