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 Free WiFi

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200 West 2nd Street
Hummelstown, PA 17036
717.566.0949

Madeline L. Olewine Memorial Library (MOM)

2410 North 3rd Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110
717.232.7286

East Shore Area Library (ESA)

4501 Ethel Street
Harrisburg, PA 17109
717.652.9380

McCormick Riverfront Library (MRL)

101 Walnut Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
717.234.4976

Elizabethville Area Library (EV)

80 North Market Street
Elizabethville, PA 17023
717.362.9825

Northern Dauphin Library (ND)

683 Main Street
Lykens, PA 17048
717.523.0340

Johnson Memorial Library (JOH)

799 East Center Street
Millersburg, PA 17061
717.692.2658

DCLS.ORG

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George & Hettie Love Memorial Library (LOV) (formerly Kline Library)

530 South 29th Street
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MARCO

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Newsletter

April 2026

Singing

Stepping Stones to Milestones



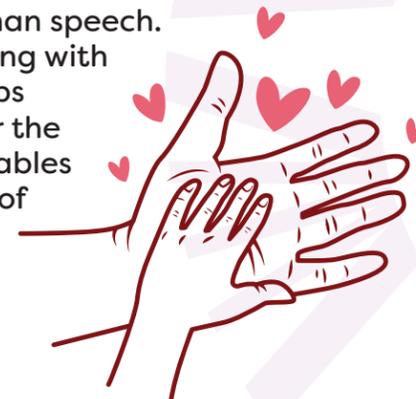
Developed by our team of educators and librarians, Stepping Stones to Milestones is a cohesive storytime experience. We aim to help children get ready to start school and to position parents and caregivers as their child's first teacher. During storytime early literacy development is supported and modeled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

Incorporate movement like swaying and bouncing when you sing.

For babies, this movement can be soothing and can help keep children engaged. Singing can capture your child's attention more effectively than speech. Clapping along with the beat helps children hear the different syllables in the words of the song.



Try these songs and rhymes at home!

Babies: A Bouncing We Will Go

A bouncing we will go,
A bouncing we will go,
Hi ho the derry o,
A bouncing we will go.



Continue with - rocking, tickling

Toddlers: I'm a Little Chick

Sung to the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot"
I'm a little chick, yellow and soft.
I was born in a hayloft.
I play all day and I cheep, cheep, cheep.
Then go to the barn where I sleep, sleep, sleep.

Preschoolers: "Little Bunny"

There was a little bunny who lived in the wood.
(hold up two fingers)
He wiggled his ears as a good bunny should
(wiggle on head)
He hopped by a squirrel. He hopped by a tree.
(hop, hop)
He hopped by a duck. And he hopped by me.
(hop, hop over fist)
He stared at the squirrel. He stared at the tree.
(stare, stare)
He stared at the duck but looked away
from me!
(stare, look away)



April Booklist

0-3 years

- Colors** by Airlie Anderson
- Dump Truck Duck** by Megan E. Bryant
- Oh Dear! A Farm Lift-the-Flap Book** by Rod Campbell
- Play in Any Weather** by Elizabeth Doyle
- Little Lamb** by Kim Lewis
- Bunny Roo, I Love You** by Melissa Marr
- The Napping House** by Audrey Wood

3-5 years

- Wiggle** by Doreen Cronin
- Miss MacDonald Has a Farm** by Kalee Gwarjanski
- An Earth Song** by Langston Hughes
- Am I Yours?** by Alex Latimer
- April Fool** by Karen Gray Ruelle
- Piper Chen Sings** by Phillipa Soo
- If You're Happy and You Know It** by James Warhola



I'm a Great Big Dump Truck

Sung to "I'm a Little Teapot"

I'm a great big dump truck
hold arms wide apart
 Full of rocks
 Here is my engine
hold arms with fingers touching in front of your body.
 Here is my box
Hold arms behind back
 When the crew is ready
 Hear me shout,
 "Pull the levers and dump me out!"
Pretend to pull a lever
 Shhhhhhhh.



Singing games

Singing games provide a fun way for children to develop language and improve memory. Make singing a part of your daily routine. Here is one example of a song and movement activity you can do at home.

My Thumbs are Starting to Wiggle

Tune: "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow"

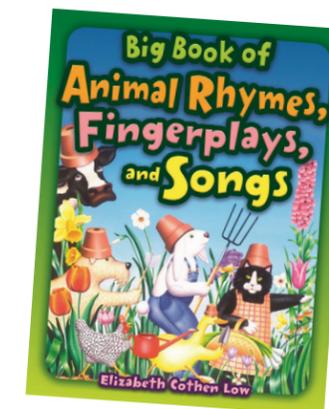
My thumbs are starting to wiggle,
 My thumbs are starting to wiggle,
 My thumbs are starting to wiggle,
 Around, around, around.

Other verses:

My hands are starting to wiggle...
 My arms are starting to wiggle...
 My head is starting to wiggle...
 Now all of me is wiggling...
 My toes are starting to wiggle...
 My knees are starting to wiggle...
 My bottom is starting to wiggle.

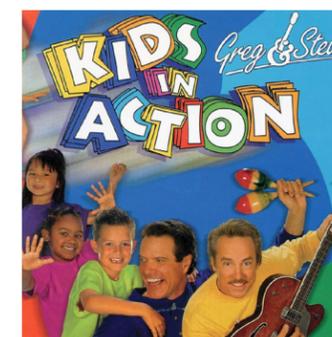
April 2026 Stepping Stones to Milestones Schedule of programs. The Spring Session is March 29, 2026 to May 2, 2026

| 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 AM 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 | | | |



Find more songs in books like this one.

Find fun tunes on CDs like these.



April 2026 Early Literacy Activity Calendar

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

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| | | | 1 Do something silly in honor of April Fool's Day. | 2 Practice writing the words, egg, bunny, and spring. | 3 Make your own shaky eggs using plastic eggs. Does the sound change with different contents? | 4 Read a book with a bunny in it.  |
| 5 Use plastic eggs to make a color matching game.  | 6 Make paper bag puppets and use the puppets to have a conversation. | 7 Collect a basketful of items with different textures for children to explore. | 8 Draw a picture of a spring flower.  | 9 Go on a circle hunt. Can you find 10 circles in your house? | 10 Happy Birthday Martin Waddell! Read a book by this author. | 11 Sing a song about rain.  |
| 12 Visit the Library!  | 13 Recite favorite nursery rhymes. | 14 Make a cloud shape picture.  | 15 Sing a song about food as you make dinner.  | 16 Look through a book that shows various animals and ask your child what sounds each makes. | 17 Sing "Old MacDonald Had a Farm"  | 18 Pig, horse, and hen. Name words that rhyme with each. |
| 19. Do a freeze dance. When the music stops, you freeze. When the music plays, you dance. | 20 Use your finger to follow along as you read a book with your child. | 21 Practice writing the word earth. e a r t h | 22 It's Earth Day! Sort recyclables by material type and discuss the importance of recycling.  | 23 Draw a picture of the world. | 24 Put on boots and stomp through rain puddles. No puddles? Read a book about them. | 25 Go for a walk and collect stones. Count how many stones you find. |
| 26 It's National Pretzel Day. Make patterns using different types and shapes of pretzels. | 27 Point to a body part. Have children name that body part and say a word that rhymes with it. (head/ bed) | 28 Happy Birthday Amy Hest! Read a book by this author. | 29 It's National Zipper Day. Practice operating a zipper. | 30 Visit the Library!  | | |