

# Open for Discovery

 Free WIFI

**William H. & Marion C. Alexander  
Family Library (AFL)**  
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)  
(formerly Kline Library)**  
530 South 29th Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17104  
717.234.3934

**Madeline L. Olewine  
Memorial Library (MOM)**  
2410 North 3rd Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17110  
717.232.7286


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

**Northern Dauphin Library (ND)**  
683 Main Street  
Lykens, PA 17048  
717.523.0340

**DCLS.ORG**  
**Your Ninth Library**  
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.  
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24/7 RENEWALS  
Toll Free 1.877.709.2690

**MARCO**  
Your Exploration Station  
Out and about in your community

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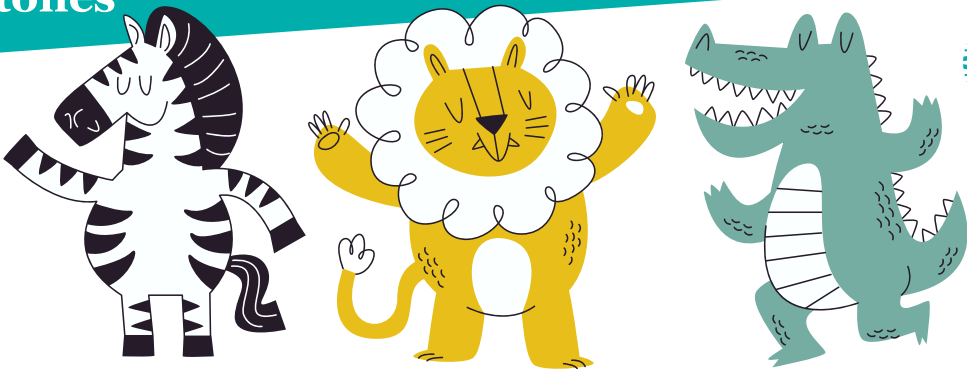
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## Stepping Stones to Milestones



 **THE DAUPHIN COUNTY  
LIBRARY SYSTEM**  
YOUR PLACE TO BELONG  
[DCLS.ORG](https://DCLS.ORG)

October 2025

Playing

**D**eveloped 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.

### Cardboard box play

Boxes are great for encouraging creative and imaginative play. Let children decide how to change the box into something they can use for pretend play. Problem solving skills will be used to as they turn their box into what they imagine. Provide other supplies like paper, glue, paint, and crayons. Adults can guide their children with questions like, "What does this box remind you of? What do you want your box to be?" Then follow their children's lead.

## Try these songs and rhymes at home!

### Babies And Pandy Sugar and Candy (Lap Bounce)

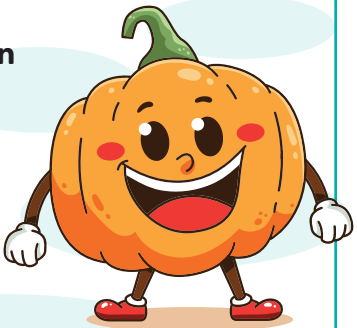
Andy Pandy  
Sugar and candy  
All pop down. (*lower baby*)  
Andy Pandy  
Sugar and candy  
All pop up. (*Lift baby up*)  
Andy Pandy  
Sugar and candy  
All pop in. (*Pull baby in for a hug*)  
Andy Pandy  
Sugar and candy  
All pop out. (*Lift baby out in front of you*)

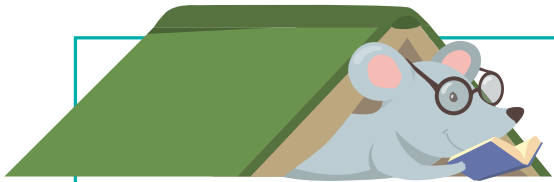
### Toddlers: The Leaves are Falling Down (Tune: "Farmer in the Dell")

The leaves are falling down  
The leaves are falling down  
Red, Yellow, Green, and Brown  
The Leaves are falling down

### Preschool: Roly Poly Pumpkin (tune of "Itsy Bitsy Spider")

Oh, the roly-poly pumpkin  
(*roll arms, gradually speed up*)  
Went rolling down the hill  
Once it started rolling  
It couldn't keep still  
It rolled and rolled and rolled  
Until it bumped into a rock (*act surprised*)  
Then the roly-poly pumpkin (*roll slowly*)  
Came to a stop (*clap*)





# October Booklist

## 0-3 years

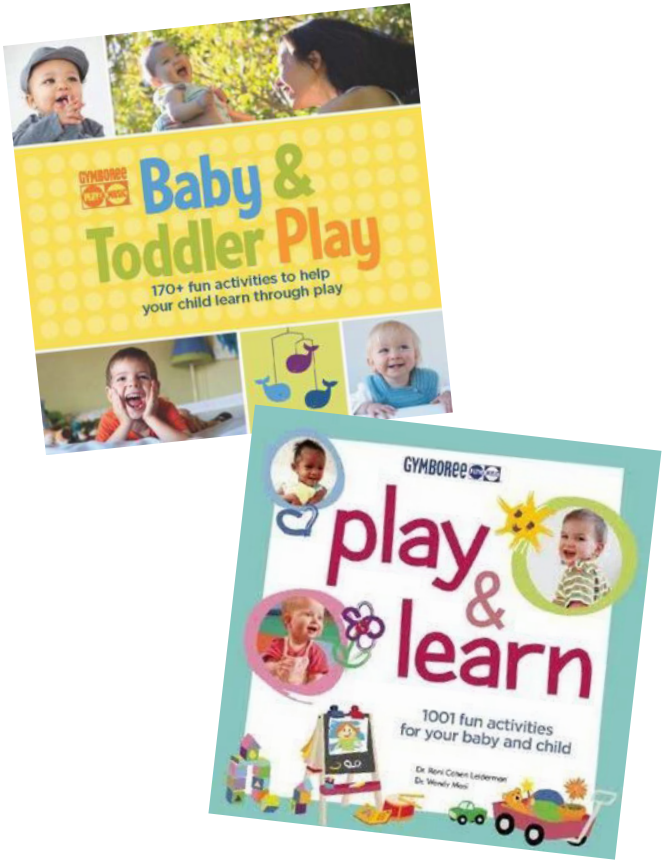
**See-Saw: First Book of Nursery Songs** illustrated by Ailie Busby  
**Play Games with Me** by Kat Chen  
**Monsters Play... Peekaboo!** by Flavia Z. Drago  
**I'm a Little Pumpkin** by Hannah Eliot  
**Good Night, Gorilla** by Peggy Rathmann  
**Hello Hello Colors** by Brendan Wenzel

## 3-5 years

**Biscuit and the Great Fall Day** by Alyssa Satin Capucilli  
**What If We...** by Vivienne Chang  
**Rex Wrecks It!** by Ben Clanton  
**Motor Goose: Rhymes that Go!** by Rebecca Colby  
**Me Gusta** by Angela Dominguez  
**If Animals Trick-or-Treated** by Ann Whitford Paul  
**Big Boy Joy** by Connie Schofield-Morrison



For more ideas, check out one of these.



**You may know imaginative play** by the terms pretend play or dramatic play. This type of play fosters creativity, problem solving and social-emotional skills. Through imaginative play, children develop a deeper understanding of the world around them. Adults can encourage this type of play by joining in the fun, providing props and materials, following their children's lead, and embracing silliness. Imaginative play typically begins between the ages of 2 and 3 years old. You can provide prop boxes to support different themed play activities.

Some common pretend play ideas include:

- Doctor's office
- Restaurant
- Toy Store
- Veterinarian's clinic
- Grocery store
- Camping adventure
- Puppet shows
- Dress up
- Post office
- Superheroes
- Car travel
- Community helpers



**October 2025 Stepping Stones to Milestone Schedule of programs**  
**Session 6 is September 20 to October 25**  
**Registration opens on October 20 for Session 7**











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

**Play is an excellent opportunity** for your child to give meaning to words and actions and to build new vocabulary. You can model language and correct grammar through play. For example, the child says, "car" and the caregiver says, "Yes, that's a big car".



# October 2025 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 October begins with letter O. Name three other words that begin with O.	2 <b>Read a book about a firefighter.</b> 	3 Count how many letters are in the word "October." Can you name another month with the same number of letters?	4 In honor of World Animal Day, name an animal that begins with each of the letters in your first name.
5 Happy Birthday David Shannon. Read a book written by this author.	6 <b>It's National Noodle Day. Use tube pasta to make a necklace.</b>	7 Play dress-up with old cloths. 	8 <b>Practice writing the letter O.</b>	9 <b>Explore pumpkins and other gourds. Describe the outside of those gourds.</b>	10 Sing a song about a spider. 	11 Visit the library. 
12 <b>It's National Farmers Day. Read a book about a farm or a farm animal.</b>	13 <b>Taste different kinds of apples. If you cook and mash the apples, even babies can do this activity.</b>	14 <b>Sing the Alphabet Song.</b> 	15 Play a game of flashlight tag. 	16 Explore a children's picture dictionary together.	17 Play a game of Rock, Paper, Scissors with your child.	18 <b>Use paper shapes to make a fire engine.</b>
19 Plan a walk around your neighborhood and draw a map of the route you will take.	20 <b>Make a scented "rattle" using corn, cinnamon, beans, all-spice, leaves, and more. Place inside a bottle with a pop-up lid.</b>	21 <b>Taste a food that has pumpkin as an ingredient.</b>	22 <b>Bats are nocturnal. Read a book about bats or another nocturnal animal.</b>	23 Count all the pumpkins you see today and keep a tally. 	24 <b>Listen to some favorite songs and identify if they are good for slow or fast dancing.</b>	25 Trace the hands of each member of your family. Who has the biggest? Who has the smallest?
26 Paint a pumpkin or a gourd. 	27 It's National Black Cat Day. Draw or create a black cat. 	28 What is your favorite candy? Poll your family and make a chart showing which candy gets the most votes.	29 <b>Visit the library.</b> 	30 Help your child make a card for their favorite monster or imaginary creature.	31 <b>Happy Halloween! Read a spooky book.</b> 