



SUMMER IS FOR...

FRIENDSHIP

HELPING

DRAWING

TRAVEL

PLAYING

FIREFLIES

MOVIES

HUGS

PICNICS

PAINTING

IMAGINATION

SWIMMING

BEACH



COMBING



GROWING

SAND CASTLES

CAMP

EXPLORING

ADVENTURE

HIKING
CARTWHEELS

DREAMING

STARGAZING



BBQ

READING



NAPS



SUMMER LEARNING 2022

SUMMER IS FOR ... FUN!

[June 25 - August 27]



READING PREPARATION BEGINS BEFORE YOUR CHILD STARTS SCHOOL – IT BEGINS AT BIRTH!

There are five early literacy practices that every child needs to get ready to read, listen, and write. This challenge is designed to encourage parents and caregivers to engage in these early literacy practices with their children all while exploring art, science, math, and more! Get ready to talk, sing, read, write, and play!

ACTIVITY BADGES

Complete any 7 of the 10 suggested activities to earn each badge! Badges can be completed in any order, so start with what interests you most. Do one activity per week to earn one badge or one activity per day to earn all seven.

For each activity badge earned, the Friends of the Library will donate \$1 to the Lexington Interfaith Food Pantry, up to \$500. Visit the library to vote on how your dollar is spent!

READING LOG

You can also log your time spent towards a goal of 24 hours and earn a \$5 voucher for the Friends of the Library used book sale! Read just 30 minutes a day, 6 days a week to meet this goal. Time spent reading books for the Read badge does count towards your time goal.

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Summer Learning is sponsored by The Friends of Cary Memorial Library.

The Early Literacy Summer Challenge is for infants through preschoolers. If your child will be entering kindergarten in the fall, please enroll in the K-5 Summer Challenge.

Challenges begin June 25 and end August 27. The last day to claim prizes is Saturday, September 3.

USEFUL RESOURCES

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Visit caryllibrary.org/programs to see what's happening at the library. Filter by category to limit what's shown.

USERNAME:

PASSWORD:

caryllibrary.beanstack.org



write badge

- Help your child bend, reach, flex, and curve to make letters with their body.
- A-Z Scavenger Hunt: Walk outside and look for things that start with the letters of the alphabet. Apple trees, basketballs, caterpillars, and so on...
- Finger Paint: Fill a large tray or baking sheet and let your child practice drawing letters! Play around with different types of wet or dry materials such as yogurt, shaving cream, cornmeal, flour, or sand.
- Build as many letters you can from blocks. Try spelling names or make the whole alphabet!
- Color in letter outlines: Outline letters for your child to color and decorate.
- Practice tracing letters.
- Play with rubber or potato stamps on paper to help your child develop their motor skills. To make a potato stamp, cut a potato in half and carve a shape into the cut face.
- Help your child practice writing their name.
- Choose a letter of the day and integrate it into your day, eating foods, playing games, etc. that begin with that letter!
- Help your child practice finding and typing out the ABCs on a keyboard.



read badge

- Play With Books: Let your child spend time playing on their own with books. Board books or cloth books are best for this activity!
- Read to or with a sibling or friend.
- Read along with an animated picture book and its nonfiction companion using the library's online resource, BookFlix.
- Read a fairy tale or folklore book.
- Ask your child to retell a story they read in a book to a friend or family member.
- Act out a book. Pretend to be characters from a book and act out the story.
- Read a rhyming book and play with the rhyming words OR read an interactive book such as a lift-the-flap, touch & feel, or action book.
- Choose a drawing or photograph you like and tell a story about what is happening in the picture.
- Listen to an audiobook or book and CD set.
- Read a book about someone different from you.



talk badge

- Explore your and your child's faces in the mirror. Point out all the parts and make silly expressions.
- Make a listening box and put an object inside. Shake the box and have your child guess what the object is based on the noise it makes.
- Start a story and ask your child what happens next.
- Learn a phrase in another language. Use a book, Cary's eResource Mango Languages, an app, or ask a friend who speaks another language. Don't forget sign languages!
- Play "What's Better," choosing between 2 items. For example, what's better: apples or bananas?
- "Read" a wordless book. Look at each page, talk about what is happening, ask what happens next.
- Play a communication game like I Spy, Telephone, or Simon Says.
- Ask your child to "read" signs and common symbols in the community.
- Use a telephone to call someone and chat. This uses different skills than videochat or face-to-face communication.
- Clap out the syllables in different words, songs, and the ABCs.



music badge

- Do action rhymes such as "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes."
- Sing a book! There are picture book versions of many familiar songs.
- Listen to music and sing along, or make up your own song.
- Play with musical instruments.
- Move slowly to classical music.
- Get out the pots and pans and wooden spoons. Explore the different sounds various sizes make.
- Have a conversation entirely in song.
- Sing high, low, loud, and soft with your child to help them explore and become aware of their voice.
- Sing call and response songs such as "The Other Day, I Met a Bear."
- Sing transition songs such as "Clean Up, Clean Up" or "Wash, Wash, Your Hands."



play badge

- Pick a theme (such as pirates, princesses, or space) and wear costumes, do activities, play games, and eat food around the theme of the day.
- Read nursery rhymes, then act them out! Find nursery rhymes in the folklore collection at j398.8.
- Put on some music and have a dance party!
- Play with bubbles!
- Get outside! Play in your own backyard or explore an ACROSS Lexington trail and talk about what you see. Visit lexingtonma.gov/across-lexington for maps and information.
- Put together a puzzle with your child. Talk about what they are seeing. Ask why they think two pieces go together or why they don't.
- Play Lap Games: Seat your child on your lap or hold them while you bounce them in rhythm, gently tickle them, and play movement games. Find suggestions at caryllibrary.org/lap-games.
- Water play: Grab some cups while in the tub, float some boats, mix colored water, or wash the toys!
- Pretend to be different animals. How do they move? How do they sound?
- Play Peek-A-Boo or Hide-and-Seek.



explore badge

- While your child is in the tub, play 'Will It Float?' Hold an item up. What is it? Will it sink or float? Let them toss it in and see what happens.
- Touch and Feel Guessing Game: Gather a collection of soft items and harder objects. Place them into a box or bag. Have your child reach in and guess and describe the first object they feel.
- Try a new fruit or vegetable and have a conversation about the experience.
- Read a book about shapes, then go on a shape hunt around the house or outside.
- Human Scale: Have your child close their eyes and hold out their arms. Place two objects of different weights, one in each hand. Ask your child to lower the hand with the heavy object and raise the hand with the lighter object.
- Sort and Count: Collect a variety of similar items of varying shapes, sizes, and colors. Have your child sort them and count them.
- Go for a number walk. Identify places you see numbers, such as houses or license plates.
- Unusual Units: How many shoes tall are you? What other units can you use to measure things?
- Bake for someone. Use measuring cups and spoons to learn about simple fractions.
- Learn about an animal.



create badge

- Listen to music (any kind will do) and draw or paint what you hear.
- Paint with Water: Let your child explore a variety of brushes and sponges while "painting" any outdoor surface (fence, deck, driveway, etc.) with water.
- Paint with Yogurt: Add food coloring to plain yogurt. Talk about what you are doing while mixing a variety of colors. Let them swirl it, play, and paint with it on a tray.
- Crayon Rubbings: Explore the textures of different surfaces and everyday objects by placing them under a sheet of paper and rubbing over them with the long edge of a crayon.
- Wall Art: Cover a wall with large paper and let your child draw or paint a picture or mural.
- Trace your child on large paper to make a life-size self-portrait. Help them color in the outline.
- Decorate your driveway or sidewalk with chalk.
- Get messy and build a sand castle or mud pie. Decorate with natural items such as shells, flowers, sticks, and rocks.
- Make a sculpture out of blocks, building bricks, modeling dough, or clay.
- Draw a picture based on a favorite book. You could draw the main character, a scene from the book, a map of where it takes place, etc.