



**Welcome to 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten. Reading to your child every day goes a long way towards helping them build critical literacy skills and prepare for school. Your child's first and best teacher is you! By reading just three books a day, you can read 1,000 books to your child in one year.**

Early literacy is everything that children know about reading and writing before they can read and write. Recognizing letters, numbers, rhyming and vocabulary help children form narrative skills and motivates them to keep reading. And the best part is they can start learning at any age — it's never too early to start reading to your child!

For nursery rhyme videos and more on early literacy, visit:  
**[saskatoonlibrary.ca/1000-books-b4k](http://saskatoonlibrary.ca/1000-books-b4k)**

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# TIPS TO HELP YOU BUILD EARLY LITERACY WITH YOUR CHILD.

[saskatoonlibrary.ca/1000-books-b4k](http://saskatoonlibrary.ca/1000-books-b4k)

## Talking

1. Point out items you see and use colour, shape and texture to describe them.
2. Describe what you are doing while with your child.  
Example: "Now I'm cutting up the carrots for lunch."
3. Review activities from the day at mealtimes or while you get ready for bed. Example: "This morning we went for a walk to the park."
4. Have a conversation, ask questions and let your child respond. A smile, wiggle, gurgle or simply eye contact may be their response.  
Example "What was a fun thing you did today?"

## Singing

1. Don't worry about your singing voice. Children love their caregivers' voices best of all.
2. Sing the alphabet to or with your child.
3. Listen to music and encourage your child to clap along, use a rattle or other household items to keep the beat of a song.
4. Dance around with your child.

## Reading

1. Bond with your child over a new book or an old favourite.
2. Point to some of the pictures in books and talk about what it is.
3. Let your child turn the pages of a board book or swipe the screen of a tablet.

## Writing

1. Point out letters or numbers you see.
2. Give your child a piece of paper and let them scribble.  
If they are unsure, show them how.

## Playing

1. Get on the floor with toys and play with your child.
2. Roll a ball between you and your child.
3. All nursery rhymes are a form of play and we encourage you to try some with your child.