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DMPL.ORG/SIMPLESTEPS
FOR MORE INFORMATION



POLK COUNTY
EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA



DES MOINES
PUBLIC LIBRARY

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SIMPLE STEPS

...TO SUCCESS

READ WRITE SING PLAY TALK

EARLY LITERACY ACTIVITY SHEET

WIN PRIZES BY COMPLETING THE ACTIVITIES INSIDE!

RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN FROM BIRTH TO PRESCHOOL

COMPLETE 4 OUT OF 5 ACTIVITIES FOR EACH SIMPLE STEP, THEN PLACE A STICKER ON THE CORRESPONDING CIRCLE. ONCE YOU HAVE ALL 5 STICKERS, YOU WILL RECEIVE A PRIZE!



READ

CREATING A LOVE OF READING WILL HELP YOUR CHILD LEARN FOR THE REST OF THEIR LIVES!

- ☐ Visit the library and borrow books to read at home.
- ☐ Attend a library program (See our event calendar at dmpl.org/events.)
- ☐ Build a cozy reading spot and snuggle up to read.
- ☐ Walk around your neighborhood, and point out letters that you see.
- ☐ Read together outside.



WRITE

SCRIBBLING, DRAWING, AND USING THOSE FINGER MUSCLES WILL HELP PREPARE YOUR CHILD TO WRITE!

- ☐ Complete a puzzle together.
- ☐ Use Play-Doh to make play foods.
- ☐ Draw letters or shapes outside with chalk, in sand, or in snow.
- ☐ Draw a picture of your family and talk about what makes each person special.
- ☐ Draw simple lines on paper and have your child cut or tear on the lines.



PLAY

PLAYTIME ALLOWS YOUR CHILD TO DEVELOP THEIR CREATIVITY, VOCABULARY, AND SOCIAL SKILLS!

- ☐ Stack blocks or boxes as tall as you can.
- ☐ Pretend you are an animal; what sounds do you make?
- ☐ Practice throwing balls or other soft objects into a box or basket.
- ☐ Build something using items you find outside.
- ☐ Make creatures from Play-Doh and act out a story with them.



SING

SINGING HELPS YOUR CHILD HEAR THE SOUNDS OF WORDS AND HELPS BUILD VOCABULARY!

- ☐ Play music and dance together.
- ☐ Create an instrument with items you find around the house.
- ☐ Make up your own silly song as you complete work around the house.
- ☐ Listen to a new type of music together.
- ☐ Sing your favorite song, then sing it faster and faster and faster.

TALK

ASKING QUESTIONS AND TALKING WITH YOUR CHILD WILL HELP THEM LEARN NEW WORDS!

- ☐ Point to foods in the grocery store and ask your child to identify the food or its color.
- ☐ Take a walk in the park and see how many animals and bugs you can find together.
- ☐ Tell your child three things you love about them.
- ☐ Count your steps as you walk together.
- ☐ Have your child help sort laundry, then talk about what makes the items the same or different.

