Five simple practices (Read, Write, Talk, Sing, Play) that parents/caregivers can use to develop early literacy skills starting at birth.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading books together is the single best way to help children develop early literacy skills. Read together every day and talk about the books you read.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Books by Eric Carle (some are listed on the back)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <em>Hermie The Caterpillar</em> by Max Lucado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <em>Monarch Butterfly</em> by Gail Gibbons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <em>Arabella Miller’s Tiny Caterpillar</em> by Clare Jarrett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <em>Houdini the Amazing Caterpillar</em> by Janet Pedersen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing activities help children learn letter names and sound out new words. Writing also helps children understand that written words represent ideas, places and events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Make a counting book together. Write a number on a page and draw or glue or use stickers to represent the same number.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Draw circles out on a paper, like a caterpillar. Write one letter in each circle to spell out your child’s name or names of family members. You can make the circles green with a red one for the head. (Like the caterpillar in the book!)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Singing helps children hear the distinct sounds that make up words. Songs also teach new vocabulary and introduce new ideas and concepts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(words to these songs are on the back)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <em>Today is Monday</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <em>The Fuzzy Caterpillar</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <em>10 Little Butterflies</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Playing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children learn how to express themselves, the meaning of words and other literacy skills by playing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Cook some food together in the kitchen. Let your little one do some stirring or pouring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Set up an obstacle course in your home or outside and let your child crawl through places, just like the caterpillar ate through the food</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Talking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Talking with your child is one of the best ways to help develop language and other early literacy skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Go to the grocery store together and look for and talk about the different foods you can find from the book.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Count objects around your house and talk about how many there are of each. “One refrigerator.” “Two televisions.” “Three beds.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**PlaySpace**

**PLAY** leads to literacy (reading and writing.)

Play with your child.

Let your child lead.

Ask open ended questions.

You can use everyday moments to naturally engage with your child.

---

**Books by Eric Carle**

(a few are listed. Ask a librarian to help you find many more!)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brown Bear, Brown Bear</td>
<td>Eric Carle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pancakes, Pancakes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ten Little Caterpillars</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Tiny Seed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,2,3 to the Zoo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Grouchy Ladybug</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Songs to sing with your child…**

**Ten Little Caterpillars**

1 little, 2 little, 3 little caterpillars  
4 little, 5 little, 6 little caterpillars  
7 little, 8 little, 9 little caterpillars  
Turn in to Butterflies!

**The Fuzzy Caterpillar**

(to the tune of "The Eensy Weensy Spider")

The fuzzy caterpillar  
Cuddled upon a leaf,  
Spun her little chrysalis  
And then fell asleep.  
While she was sleeping,  
She dreamed that she could fly,  
And later when she woke up  
She was a butterfly!

**Today is Monday**

Today is Monday  
Monday, string beans  
All you hungry children  
Come and eat it up!  
(Then, you will add a day of the week and a food for each day)

**Today is Tuesday**

Today is Tuesday  
Tuesday, spaghetti  
Monday, string beans  
All you hungry children  
Come and eat it up!

**Today is Wednesday**

Today is Wednesday  
Wednesday, ZOOOP  
Tuesday, spaghetti  
Monday, string beans  
All you hungry children  
Come and eat it up!

**Today is Thursday**

Today is Thursday  
Thursday, roast beef  
Wednesday, ZOOOP  
Tuesday, spaghetti  
Monday, string beans  
All you hungry children  
Come and eat it up!

**Today is Friday**

Today is Friday  
Friday, fresh fish  
Thursday, roast beef  
Wednesday, ZOOOP  
Tuesday, spaghetti  
Monday, string beans  
All you hungry children  
Come and eat it up!

**Today is Saturday**

Today is Saturday  
Saturday, chicken  
Friday, fresh fish  
Thursday, roast beef  
Wednesday, ZOOOP  
Tuesday, spaghetti  
Monday, string beans  
All you hungry children  
Come and eat it up!

**Today is Sunday**

Today is Sunday  
Sunday, ice cream  
Saturday, chicken  
Friday, fresh fish  
Thursday, roast beef  
Wednesday, ZOOOP  
Tuesday, spaghetti  
Monday, string beans  
All you hungry children  
Come and eat it up!

---

Will your child listen to 1000 books before Kindergarten?  
*YES!*

We will help make it happen.

Choose a titles log OR a numbers log OR a coloring sheet to record the books read. Ask us for help!