

On Your Way to Your First Day

Birth to 18 months

- Sing a song or say nursery rhymes
- Let baby hold a board book and turn pages
- Do a finger play
- Read a bedtime story every night
- Create a special place to keep books
- Play peekaboo
- Point out pictures in a book and name them
- Play with water
- Point to and identify parts of the body
- Hold, kiss and cuddle

18 months to 3 years

- Label objects in your child's room
- Dance to music
- Draw and color
- Play with blocks or empty boxes
- Read a book and have child point out pictures
- Point out and name places and objects as you go through the day
- Visit the library and check out books
- Play with bubbles and make observations
- Compare sizes and amounts
- Invite curiosity
- Play guessing games
- Talk about feelings

3 to 5 years

- Have child draw a picture and tell a story about it
- Sing the alphabet song while washing hands
- Cut out pictures from magazines to make a story
- Identify shapes you see every day
- Set a good example by reading your own books
- Play Simon Says
- Count things out loud
- Go on a nature walk
- Ask open ended questions, like what would happen if?
- Do a cooking activity together
- Match and sort objects
- Offer choices



For more ideas, visit:

www.daybydayva.org and www.kidsliteracy.org