



# MAY 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Talk Ask your parent what they like most about the month of May.	2 Read Go check out <i>Max Celebrates Cinco de Mayo</i> by Adria F. Worsham.	3 Sing <b>National Two Different Colored Shoes Day!</b> Sing <i>Pete The Cat: I Love My White Shoes</i> .	4 Write <b>National Star Wars Day!</b> Write the phrase <i>May The Fourth</i> four times today.	5  5	6 Talk Head to your local library and ask the librarian about books on spring and flowers.
7 Read <b>National Lemonade Day!</b> Take a look at <i>OLIVIA Opens a Lemonade Stand</i> by Kama Einhorn.	8 Sing Make up a song about different colored flowers.	9 Write Write the word <i>May</i> nine times today.	10 Play <b>National Clean Up Your Room Day!</b> Take a break from fun and clean your room.	11 Talk Ask your parent what their favorite book is.	12 Read Don't forget to read <i>The Night Before Mother's Day</i> by Natasha Wing.	13 Sing Sing along to <i>Rainbow After The Rain</i> by Mr. Adam.
14 Write <b>Mother's Day!</b> Don't forget to write <i>Happy Mother's Day</i> today.	15 Play Play <i>I Spy</i> using only the colors pink and yellow.	16 Talk Tell your parent what you would like for dinner today.	17 Read Have your parent read you <i>A Season to Bee A Stylish book of colors</i> by Carlos Aponte.	18 Sing Sing and dance along to <i>Can You Plant a Bean</i> by Dance 'n Beats.	19 Write <b>National Pizza Party Day!</b> Write the word <i>Pizza</i> ten times today.	20 Play Go outside and play two games of <i>Hop-Scotch</i> with your best friend.
21 Talk Ask your friend if they like flowers and find out why.	22 Read Make sure you read <i>Spring Things</i> by Bob Raczka.	23 Sing Take a listen to <i>Tree to Tree</i> by The Backyardigans.	24 Write <b>Brother's Day!</b> Write the word <i>Brother</i> six times today.	25 Play Red Nose Day! Enjoy the day by having lots of fun all day long.	26 Talk Tell your parent what you would like to do for fun this summer.	27 Read Take a walk to your local library and check out <i>Kitten's Spring</i> by Eugenie Fernandes.
28 Sing Sing the song <i>Ten Little Bunnies</i> by Mr. Adam.	29 	30 Play Head outside and jump rope with a friend.	31 Talk Tell your parent something fun you would like to do this upcoming weekend.	<p><b>Cleveland Public Library Youth Services Department Early Literacy Calendar</b></p> <p><b>Don't forget this month is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>National Bike Month</b></li> <li>• <b>National Get Caught Reading Month</b></li> </ul>		



## Talking

- Children learn about language by listening to parents and caregivers talk and by joining in conversation.
- Talking, telling stories and stretching conversations help children learn new words, learn to express themselves and learn how to have a conversation.
- Infants and young children need to hear the language (or languages) they will eventually speak in order to learn it — so if you speak two languages at home, it **is** beneficial to speak both languages to your child.
- Talking to your child in the language you are most fluent in is the best way to help your child develop early literacy skills.
- Very young children can **understand** spoken words long before they can **speak** any of them — so talk to them and you will be amazed at how your child responds..
- Talking to your child about many different events, ideas and stories helps them develop the general knowledge they need to understand the content of what they will read in books when they are older.

## Writing

- Writing and reading go together! Both are ways to represent spoken words and to communicate information.
- Scribbling and drawing are forms of writing — they may not be words, but the lines and pictures your child draws mean something to them.
- Scribbling and drawing help children develop eye-hand coordination and the fine motor control they need to hold a pencil.
- As children write, they become aware that the printed letters and words have meaning. They begin to understand the purpose of reading through the process of writing.
- Writing doesn't always have to be **writing** — it can be tracing in sand, playing with clay or play dough, or crinkling up newspaper to help strengthen finger muscles!

## Reading

- Reading together remains the **single most effective way** to help children become proficient readers.
- Children, who enjoy being read to, are more likely to want to learn to read themselves.
- Reading together develops vocabulary, comprehension, and general knowledge needed to understand other books and stories when they are older. Reading introduces children to "rare" words that they may not hear in everyday conversation.

## Playing

- Play is one of the primary ways young children learn about how the world works and learn language.
- Play helps children practice putting their thoughts into words.
- Play helps children think symbolically — that this item stands for this thing ("This box is a rocket ship!"), which helps them understand that words can stand for real objects or experiences.
- Play is how children practice becoming adults and process what they see and hear every day.

## Singing

- Singing helps children learn new words.
- Singing slows down language so children can hear the different sounds in words and learn about syllables.
- Singing together is a fun bonding experience with your child — whether you're a good singer or not!
- Singing develops listening and memory skills and makes repetition easier for young children — it's easier to remember a short song than a short story.

*\*There are five early literacy practices that every child needs to get ready to read, listen, and write: Talking, Singing, Reading, Writing, and Playing.  
(Some information taken from the Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library 2nd Edition Toolkit, Sections 1–5)*