



# Best Beginning Children's Program

April 2024



## LEARNING THEME TRANSPORTATION

Activities at in-person groups

Arts & Crafts

- Spring tree craft
- Alphabet train
- Paper airplanes
- Kids driver's license

## Best Beginning In-Person Groups

Mondays 10:30am - 12pm  
Central Library  
800 3 Street SE

Tuesdays 1-2:30pm  
Families Matter Centre  
#101, 239 Midpark Way SE

Wednesdays 1-2:30pm  
Genesis Centre  
7555 Falconridge Blvd NE

## CIRCLE TIME

*Books Available at the Calgary  
Public Library*

- *Cars and Trucks and Things That Go* by Richard Scarry
- *I Love Trucks!* by Philemon Sturges
- *I Stink!* by Jim McMullan and Kate McMullan

## CALENDAR

**April 10**

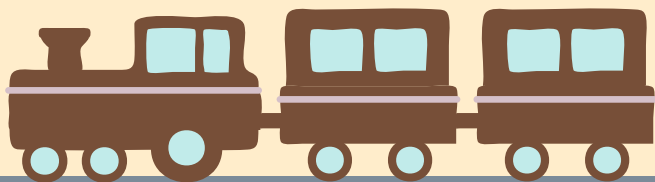
End of Ramadan

**April 22**

Earth Day

**April 23**

Passover



# ENCOURAGING EARLY LITERACY

Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read or write. There are five practices that will help your child develop their literacy skills.



## TALK

- Children learn about language by listening to parents and caregivers talk and by joining the conversation.
- Use the language you know best.

## SING

- The rhythm in music allows a young child to hear and break words into syllables or "chunks".
- Music is soothing and can help calm both the child and parent.

## READ

- Read together!!
- Children who enjoy being read to are more likely to want to learn to read.

## WRITE

- Reading and writing go together. Both are important to communicate information.
- Play rhyming finger games with your toddler! That will help your child develop fine motor skills which your child will use later when learning writing.

## PLAY

- Pretend and dramatic play helps your child practise putting thoughts into words.



## Tips to Encourage a Reader

- Share books with your baby from birth! Sturdy board books are best for them to play with.
- Show your child how books work and teach your child to turn the pages.
- Sing together. Your child loves hearing your voice.
- Identify shapes around you to help your child begin to recognize shapes that are parts of letters.
- Making reading fun. Cuddle up together at bedtime or read for a few moments during play time - choose a time when your child is in the mood.
- Talk about what you see in books. Look at the pictures and let your child tell you what is happening.
- Talk about your day. Tell your child what you are doing and talk about what your child is doing.
- Point out print all around you. Show your child text in books, signs, cereal boxes...Show your child how print helps get things done.

# FREE PROGRAMS FOR BABIES AND TODDLERS

SIGN UP FOR FREE IN PERSON OR VIRTUAL PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY ON  
[WWW.CALGARY LIBRARY.CA](http://WWW.CALGARY LIBRARY.CA)



## FAMILY STORYTIME

JOIN US FOR STORIES, SONGS, AND FINGER PLAYS THE WHOLE FAMILY CAN ENJOY.



## BABY RHYME TIME

WELCOME YOUR BABY TO THE LIBRARY. ENJOY SONGS, RHYMES, AND STORIES THAT WILL MAKE YOUR BABY SMILE.



## WORDS AND WIGGLES

LEARN NEW IDEAS FOR PLAY BY EXPLORING ALL FIVE SENSES THROUGH MOVEMENT, PLAY, STORY, AND SONG.



## STORYTIME WITH THE FIRE CHIEF

DROP IN AND JOIN LIBRARY STAFF AND A CALGARY FIRE DEPARTMENT FIREFIGHTER FOR A SPECIAL FAMILY STORYTIME. FIREFIGHTER SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.