

April

Activity Calendar

Must Love Books

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1. Visit your local library or bookstore and see if they offer any storytime events for children. That is a great outing for you and your child!	2. Create a rainy-day book box with your child's favorite books and any props that go along with the themes of the books.	3. ACTIVITY PAGE <u>Must Love Books</u>	4. Instead of making Friday night a movie night, grab your favorite snacks and curl up with some good books to share with your child!	5. Weekend Wrap-Up Read and go over the parts of a book with your child: author, illustrator, cover, spine, etc.
6. How to Read 	7. Point out pictures and objects when reading to your child. If they are beginning to speak, ask them to repeat the names of the pictures you point out.	8. Change the tone of your voice with different characters, sing nursery rhymes, and make facial expressions that show emotions.	9. Allow your child to help turn pages, touch the cover, point to pictures, and basically explore the book by feeling it!	10. ACTIVITY PAGE "Mark your Place"	11. Ask questions as you read. "What is going to happen?" "Oh, does bear look sad?" "Do you like to eat ice cream like Sally does?"	12. Weekend Wrap-Up Read and use the pointers shared this week when reading with your child.
13. Where to Read 	14. Make a reading nook in your house that has comfy pillows, a reading light, a basket of books, and some stuffed animals or dolls for your child to share books with.	15. Read environmental print all around you! Labels on grocery items, signs when driving or walking, menus in restaurants, etc.	16. Read side-by-side with your child or have them sit on your lap. They need to see the pictures to make connections to the text. They like to observe and help you turn the pages.	17. ACTIVITY PAGE "A Book Chain"	18. Reading outside on a blanket with some snacks nearby is always a fun way to share stories with your children!	19. Weekend Wrap-Up Read with your child in all of the places explored this week!
20. What to Read 	21. Read books that have textures on the pages, bright colors, and characters and objects that are familiar to your child.	22. Books with repetition of words and phrases and books with rhyming words or "sing-song" type rhythm are great books to read with your child!	23. Ask your friends and family members with young children what books their children like. Recommendations are so helpful!	24. ACTIVITY PAGE "Book Holder"	25. Read books that your child can relate to, such as, if you have a new baby in the family, read a book about being a big brother or sister!	26. Weekend Wrap-Up Use the suggestions shared this week on how to find the perfect books for your child!
27. When to Read 	28. Holidays are a great time to read books that explain the meaning of the holidays and the ways you can celebrate!	29. Read to your child before they go to bed, but not right at their bedtime. They need to be somewhat alert to enjoy the story and time with you.	30. Reading can be calming but there are also books that promote movement, music, and noise that can be fun to share throughout the day!	Calendar created by: Dr. Pamela B Connor- Educational Trainer and Consultant Calendar Translated by: Manuela Rodriguez   		



Must Love Books

By Janet Summer Johnson

When the main character's daddy gets a new job, he is too tired to read bedtime stories, so it's time to get a new adult to read at night! It is very important for children to have someone read their stories to them with enthusiasm and love! The next time you are reading with your child, ask them what they like about the way you read. Do they like you to change voices for different characters? Do they like it when you let them turn the pages? Do they like when you read books that have songs and you let them sing with you? Maybe if you can do all of the things



Created exclusively for Books By The Bushel, LLC by Pamela B Connor, Ed.D.



Mark your Place!

Purchase a box of wooden popsicle sticks and let your child make bookmarks for their friends and family! Bring out markers, stickers, paint, glue, pompoms, whatever you may have around the house, and let your child get as creative as they like making bookmarks. They can make them personal by finding coloring or painting the sticks their friend's favorite color or putting stickers of one of their family member's favorite cartoon characters. These are easy to make and will help your child learn how to mark their place in a book they are reading!





A Book Chain

Cut pieces of construction paper into long strips. Every time you and your child share a book together, write the name of the book on a strip of construction paper and let your child color the strip or try to draw a picture of a character or scene in the book. For the first book, shape the strip into a circle and glue or staple the ends together. For the next book, thread the strip through the first circle created and then glue or staple those ends together. Make a goal that when you get to 10 links, you will hang them from your child's bedroom ceiling or some other special place and start a new chain. Soon, your child will be surrounded by chains with the titles of all the books they have read!





Book Holder

Start this activity by cutting off the top flaps of a cereal box. Then, you will cut a triangle shape off the right side of the box. Start at a point 3 inches from the side and cut a slanted line until you are back at the right side of the box. Now you have a space to put in your books! Let your child use different colors or designs of duct tape to cover the box. This is a great way to keep books neatly displayed on shelves or to organize books by a theme or interest. Each time you finish a cereal box, you can make another book holder!

