

Prize Entry Form

Complete any five activities on the back of this form. Fill in your information and turn in at any Brown County Library.

Child's First & Last Name: _____

Child's Age: _____

Phone number OR email address: _____

Street Address: _____

Zip: _____

Did these activities encourage you to play or interact more with your child?

Yes, a lot Yes, a little No

No personal information will be shared.

The library may use this information to communicate with you about Growing Readers.

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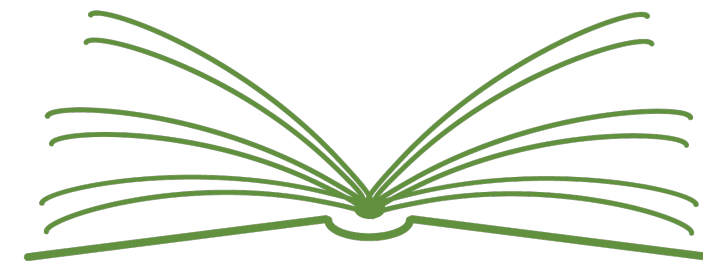
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Growing Readers



An early learning program for ages 0-6 and their adults



-  Reading.
-  Writing.
-  Singing.
-  Playing.
-  Talking.

These five necessary strategies help your child build the skills needed to get ready to read.



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How to Participate

- For each skill, **do at least five of the activities listed.** (Check off the boxes for activities completed.)
- **Fill and cut out the attached Entry Form** and bring to any Brown County Library to be entered in a monthly prize drawing (limit six entries per month).
- Finished? Continue to improve your child's reading skills by picking up another Growing Readers brochure at the library or print from our website.
- **Continue to play and enter** until age 6.

browncountylibrary.org/early-literacy

For additional information, visit our website, ask your librarian or call your local Brown County Library.



Remember

Make it fun! Do the activities your child enjoys and encourage other adults to do these activities with your child – grandparents, babysitters, aunts and uncles.



READ

- Visit the library and check out a book together.
- Use your finger to follow along with the words in the book as you read to your child.
- Read a book about the current season.
- Teach letter sounds by playing "I Spy." *I spy with my little eye something that begins with S.*
- Pick a book to read together. Stop reading before the end and ask your child, "What do you think will happen?"
- Act something out from the story you are reading.
- Share 5 books together and record them on a "1000 Books Before Kindergarten" Reading Record. Ask your librarian for details.
- Draw the pictures to a story on 4-5 small pieces of paper. Help your child put the papers in proper sequence to tell the story.

SING

- Sing to your baby during every diaper change. This will help your child learn individual sounds and prepare them for reading.
- Sing or say "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star".
- Make music with things you have in the house—pots, pans, spoons—and sing and dance to the music you make.
- Sing about what you are doing. "This is the way we eat our food, eat our food, eat our food. This is the way we put on our shoes", etc.
- Sing a favorite song or nursery rhyme. Sing it fast. Sing it slow. Whisper it.
- Play "Freeze" while dancing to music. When the music stops, everyone must freeze.
- Clap your hands to the beat of a favorite song.
- Pick a new kind of music you haven't listened to before. Listen together. Talk about what you hear.

PLAY

- Play the yes-no game! Is the sky purple? Is the cat pink? Is the door closed?
- Go for a walk outside, see if you can spot the following: a squirrel; a car; a tree; an airplane.
- Take turns pretending to be a variety of animals. Bark and wag your tail like a dog. Wriggle like a snake. Be a bird flapping its wings.
- Pick a letter of the day, look for things that begin with that letter throughout the day.
- Play with play dough to help strengthen the muscles in your child's hands.
- Play "Follow the Leader." Do things and ask your child to do the same. *Touch your head, Turn around, Sit down, Stand up again!*
- Go on a scavenger hunt. Look for things that begin with T. Toys, trees, toes.
- Choose a word and then come up with as many rhyming words as you can. *Dog, frog, hog, log...*

TALK

- Use a block to pretend to talk on the phone. Hand the block to your child and say, "They want to talk to you."
- Talk about colors. *What is your favorite color and why?* Look for that color throughout the day.
- Ask your baby lots of questions and respond to the answers.
- Go on a listening walk. Listen for birds, the wind, traffic, and point them out.
- Point to and name body parts. *Where is your mouth? Your ears? Your toes?*
- Ask your child open-ended questions. *What's something fun we did today?*
- Give your child choices. *Would you rather wear your white shirt or your purple shirt?*
- Say a favorite rhyme but leave off the last word. Have your child finish the sentence.

WRITE

- Let your child scribble and draw. Encourage them to "sign" their name on the drawing.
- Sing the "Alphabet Song" slowly and write the letters in the air with your finger as you sing.
- Draw and decorate the alphabet together. Say each letter and the sound(s) they make as you work on it.
- Write your child's first name in big block letters. Color and decorate it together. Talk about each letter.
- Draw pictures together. Label the things you draw.
- Work with your child to practice tracing. Draw big letters and shapes for them to trace.
- Use play dough to shape your child's first name.
- Start a drawing and have your child finish it or add to it.

READ

- Read a book of nursery rhymes.
- Point out shapes you see throughout your day. Children recognize letters by their shapes.
- Read or recite a rhyme aloud to your child. Your child learns words from the rich language.
- Read a book that your child selects.
- Read the same books you read yesterday. Repeated reading helps build vocabulary.
- Talk about books you read. Children learn more words when they have the opportunity to respond to questions.
- Look at the covers of books before reading them. Talk about what the books might be about.
- Make connections. Connect what you are reading in books to their lives. "Yes, Grandma has a black cat, too."