

PRISCILLA HOWE, STORYTELLER

CONNECT. REFLECT. ENJOY.

Confetti! A celebration of stories, songs, ideas and more
Color Our World Summer Library Programs 2025

A quick refresher on the five early literacy practices to incorporate into library activities

- **Talk**
Children learn language by listening to conversational speech.
- **Sing**
Singing helps children learn new words and concepts, and reinforces memory and phonological awareness.
- **Read**
Reading together develops vocabulary and comprehension. It also nurtures a love for reading through the interactional process wherein multiple people are paying attention to the same story at once.
- **Write**
In early literacy, writing skills include becoming aware that printed letters correspond with spoken sounds and words. Children are also developing the coordination they will need to form letters.
- **Play**
Play develops language and literacy skills by allowing children to put thoughts into words and talk about what they are doing. Social interaction increases learning at all ages!

Blurbs are from the CLSP manual. Also check out the [Every Child Ready to Read](#) website. You'll find [a handy chart](#) on how the five practices and the early literacy components support each other on the resource page.

Suggestions for telling stories to young children, considering stages of child development

- Age 0-2: Children enjoy peekaboo, patty cake, nursery rhymes, fingerplays. Use lots of rhyme and rhythm.
- Age 2-3: Still use fingerplays, rhyme and rhythm, lots of repetition. Simple, simple stories, 5 minutes or less. When they're done listening, they're done.
- Age 4-5: Starting to differentiate from others, to understand that others have feelings. Continue with repetition, rhyme, rhythm. Go a little longer. Silliness works well with these kids. Stories about families.
- Age 6-7: More aware of others, of emotions, getting an idea of morality. Better at predicting where the story goes.

Picture books (there are many more in the manual)

Mouse Paint by Ellen Stoll Walsh

Foodie Faces by Bill Wurtzel and Clare Wurtzel

Dog's Colorful Day by Emma Dodd

The Deep Blue Sea by Audrey Wood

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Freight Train by Donald Crews

What Color is Night by Grant Snider

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin, Jr.

Purple, Green and Yellow by Robert Munsch

Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni

Picture book lists

[Growing book by book: children's books about colors](#)

[Bookriot: children's books about colors](#)

[Goodreads: best children's books about colors](#)

Fingerplays and songs

[Library](#)

[Molly Whuppie Music](#)

[Super Simple Songs](#)

[Hap Palmer's color song](#) (cheesy, but it works!)

Crazy gibberish & other story hour stretches from a storyteller's bag of tricks by Naomi Baltuck. Linnet Books, 1993.

Sally go round the sun by Edith Fowke. Doubleday, 1969. Also, *Ring around the moon: 200 songs, tongue twisters, riddles and rhymes for children*.

Eye Winker, Tom Tinker, Chin Chopper: Fifty Musical Fingerplays by Tom Glazer. Doubleday, 1973.

[My own YouTube channel](#) has some useful stuff, including a 2-minute puppet lesson.

Crafts

[I Heart Naptime: playdough recipe](#)

[Play Ideas: stained glass](#)

[Watercolors on ice](#)

[123 Kindergarten: science fun with eyedroppers](#)

[Crafts by Amanda: colorful crafts](#)

[123 Homeschool 4 Me: colorful activities for kids](#)

[Taming Little Monsters: color crafts and activities](#)

[Happiness is Homemade: art activities for preschoolers](#)

[Workspace for Children: body portraits activity for kids](#) (also an excellent parent-child activity)

[Tinkrlab: printmaking for kids](#)

Have fun!

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