Raising Readers
Backpack

Congratulations! By checking out and using this backpack from **Capital Area District Libraries**, you are helping your child develop important literacy skills. Although these skills are very important, they can also be fun to learn.

In fact, every time you use one of these five simple practices with your child, you are helping him or her develop into a lifelong learner: **reading, writing, talking, singing** and **playing**.

Here are some ideas for using the items in this backpack:

- Read the books together, pointing out new words as you go along.

- Write some of the letters or words you see in the book.

- Talk with your child about the items in the kit. Ask what he or she thinks the stories might be about.

- Listen to the music on the CD or DVD.

- After finishing one of the stories, imagine together what might happen next.

Read • Write • Talk • Sing • Play

This tip sheet stays with the backpack. For a copy of your own, visit any CADL branch or *cadl.org/raisingreaders*.

FALL
BACKPACK ACTIVITIES

Falling Leaves:

Use the scarves that are included to act like leaves while you play the songs. Use the scarves to help identify colors, shapes and to allow movement to help follow along with the music or books.

Once there was a Pumpkin

Once there was a pumpkin *Make a circle with hands.* And it grew, And grew, And grew. *With each "grew", make imaginary pumpkin bigger.*
Now it's a jack-o-lantern And smiles at you!
With a smile, point to each other.

Autumn Leaves

Leaves are falling from the trees
Flutter fingers down.
Yellow, brown, and red.
Falling, falling from above.
One landed on my head!
Hands on head.

Craft:

Needed: A non-crunchy leaf, a popsicle stick, wiggly eyes, and markers.
Take a leaf from out side and make sure it won't crumple in your hand. Put the wiggly eyes on the leaf to start the face and draw the rest of the face with markers. Glue the back of the leaf to the front of a popsicle stick. You now have a new leafy puppet and if you make enough puppets you can put on a puppet show!