

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.

FEELINGS

BACKPACK ACTIVITIES

Emotions are as much a part of growing and learning as knowledge.

Play with the Egg toy. Look at the faces. What emotions do the faces show?

Talk with your child about words describing feelings. This will help him or her to learn words for ideas they can't touch or see. This is important for early literacy, because they will need to be able to understand abstract ideas when they are reading.

Draw your own feeling faces together— happy sad, mad, silly, etc.

Sing "If You're Happy and You Know It."

If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.
If you're happy and you know it then your face will surely show it
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.
If you're happy and you know it, stamp your feet.
If you're happy and you know it, stamp your feet.
If you're happy and you know it then your face will surely show it
If you're happy and you know it, stamp your feet.

If you're happy and you know it shout, hurray, hurray!
If you're happy and you know it shout, hurray, hurray!
If you're happy and you know it then your face will surely show it
If you're happy and you know it shout, hurray, hurray!

If you're happy and you know it, do all three, hurray!
If you're happy and you know it, do all three, hurray!
If you're happy and you know it then your face will surely show it
If you're happy and you know it, do all three, hurray!

