

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.

NURSERY RHYMES

BACKPACK ACTIVITIES

Hickory Dickory Dock

(A caregiver may pretend her fingers are the mouse and march up and down the child's arm while singing the rhyme.)

Hickory, dickory, dock.
The mouse ran up the clock.
The clock struck one,
The mouse ran down,
Hickory, dickory, dock

Hickory, dickory, dock.
The mouse ran up the clock.
The clock struck two,
And down he flew,
Hickory, dickory, dock

Action Song: London Bridge is Falling Down

For caregivers: Raise your arms and the child's to make a canopy like a bridge archway and as you sing the falling down part swing your arms to the bottom. For verse two gently pound your fists as if you were building a new bridge. For three raise your arms back into a canopy and gently swing back and forth to mimic bending and bowing.

London Bridge is falling down,
Falling down, falling down.
London Bridge is falling down,
My fair lady.
Build it up with wood and clay,
Wood and clay, wood and clay,
Build it up with wood and clay,
My fair lady.
Iron and steel will bend and bow,
Bend and bow, bend and bow,
Iron and steel will bend and bow,
My fair lady.

The Mockingbird Song

Hush little baby, don't say a word,
Papa's gonna buy you a mockingbird.
And if that mockingbird won't sing,
Papa's gonna buy you a diamond ring.
And if that diamond ring turns to brass,
Papa's gonna buy you a looking glass.
And if that looking glass gets broke,
Papa's gonna buy you a billy goat.
And if that billy goat won't pull,
Papa's gonna buy you a cart and bull.
And if that cart and bull turn over,
Papa's gonna buy you a dog named Rover.
And if that dog named Rover won't bark,
Papa's gonna buy you a horse and cart.
And if that horse and cart fall down,
You'll still be the sweetest little baby in town!

Action Rhyme: Jack Be Nimble

For caregivers: First ask the question: what does it mean to be nimble? Answer by bending and stretching and saying it is someone who can bend and squeeze into all sorts of places. Then ask: what does it mean to be quick? Answer by running in place to mimic being quick. Finally, ask how do you jump high over a candlestick? Jump up as high as you can.

Jack be nimble,
Jack be quick,
Jack jump over
The candlestick.

