

# 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](http://cadl.org/raisingreaders).

# SPRING BACKPACK ACTIVITIES

## **Fingerplay: Five Little Bunnies**

*(Hold up open hand and bend down one finger with each verse.)*

Five little bunnies standing by the door,  
One hopped away, and then there were four.  
Four little bunnies sitting near a tree,  
One hopped away, and then there were three.  
Three little bunnies looking at you,  
One hopped away and then there were two.  
Two little bunnies enjoying the sun,  
One hopped away, and then there was one.  
One little bunny sitting all alone,  
He hopped away, and then there were none!

## **Activity:**

Take your child on a nature walk to find signs of spring. Challenge yourselves to find at least 5. Do you see melting snow, buds on trees, a little bit of green grass, maybe even some flowers? For extra enrichment, get out the crayons and draw some of the things that you saw together.

## **Activity:**

You will need some of the plastic Easter eggs that are widely available during the springtime. On one half write an uppercase letter, and on the other half write the lowercase version. Separate the eggs and have your child match them up. You can also write rhyming pairs (cat/hat, hop/pop) on the eggs for a more advanced version of this activity.

## **Song:**

Worms are a sign of springtime! Listen to Hap Palmer's "Ten Wiggle Worms" from the accompanying CD and use your hands to act out the song's lyrics.

