

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.

ZOO ANIMALS

BACKPACK ACTIVITIES

The Bear Went Over the Mountain

(Tune: For He's a Jolly Good Fellow)

The bear went over the mountain,
The bear went over the mountain,
The bear went over the mountain,
To see what he could see

To see what he could see,
To see what he could see

The other side of the mountain,
The other side of the mountain,
The other side of the mountain,
Was all that he could see

Was all that he could see,
Was all that he could see,
The other side of the mountain,
Was all that he could see!

Elephant Tracks

Affix elephant track shapes on the floor in a path with contact paper. Have the children follow the path. You can make the shapes close together or far enough apart so that they can hop from one to the next.

Polar Bear

Polar Bear, Polar Bear, Turn around.
Polar Bear, Polar Bear, Touch the ground.
Polar Bear, Polar Bear, Shine your shoes.
Polar Bear, Polar Bear, Skidoo.

Polar Bear, Polar Bear, Go upstairs.
Polar Bear, Polar Bear, Say your prayers.
Polar Bear, Polar Bear, Turn out the light.
Polar Bear, Polar Bear, Say good night.

Substitute Polar Bear with lion, kangaroo, butterfly, sea lion, tiger.. etc.

Hand Antler Headbands

Trace the child's hands onto brown paper. Have the child cut out the hand shapes. Measure your child's head, and have the child cut a piece of brown construction paper long enough to create a headband. Glue the paper together so the headband fits snugly on your child's head but is loose enough to take off easily. Then affix the hands for antlers.

Banana Treat

Cut a banana into sections, place on the end of a straw. Dip the banana into warmed chocolate. Freeze, then eat!

