

# 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).

# SUMMER BACKPACK ACTIVITIES

**Help** your child draw a daytime scene or a nighttime scene. Talk about the differences between the things we see during the day and the things we see at night.

**Play** tag, hopscotch or one of your favorite outdoor childhood games.

**Take** a blanket and lie on the grass with your child and watch the clouds. See if you can find shapes in the clouds.

**On** a starlit night take your blanket and look at the stars and the moon. Look for the Big Dipper and the Little Dipper. Talk about how many stars you see.

**Visit** a playground or park. Do some fun activities like swing, slide, play ball, fly a kite.

**Set** up a sprinkler in the yard on a really hot day and let your child run through the spray!

**Sing** along with the CD included with this backpack.

**Use** the Colorform play set included and make up your own fun summer stories.

