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 watch the DVD together. Play with the toys included in the backpack.
• After finishing one of the stories, imagine 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.
**A Lovely Unicorn**  
(Tune of: "If you’re happy and you know it")

Oh, I wish I were a lovely unicorn.  
Oh, I wish I were a lovely unicorn.  
Oh, I’d frolic and I’d play,  
And I’d dream the day away.  
Oh, I wish I were a lovely unicorn.

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**Five Little Unicorns**

Five little unicorns jumping on the bed  
One fell off and bumped its head (remove one unicorn)  
Called up the doctor and the doctor said  
“No more unicorns jumping on the bed!”

Continue with 4, 3, 2, 1

**ALTERNATIVE:**

To increase the challenge, call out the color of the unicorn hoof OR the image on the unicorn flank (rainbow, flower, etc) and have your child pick the correct unicorn that bumped it’s head.

Example:

Five little unicorns jumping on the bed  
GREEN fell off and bumped its head  
Called up the doctor and the doctor said  
“No more unicorns jumping on the bed!”