

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

# SCIENCE

## BACKPACK ACTIVITIES

“Remember kids, the only difference between [messing] around and science is writing it down” – Adam Savage, Mythbusters, Season 10 Episode 8

### Scientific Method:

Make an Observation

Ask a Question

Develop a Prediction

Conduct an Experiment

Record Results & Draw a Conclusion

Sample Observations and Questions:

Ice melts when it is placed in water. Will it melt faster or slower in a different liquid?

A rubber duck floats in water. Will other toys also float?

A small magnet will pick up a paperclip. What else can the magnet pick up?

What other questions can you and your child come up with?

### Balancing Hanger Activity:

Materials Needed:

Plastic hanger with hooks or notches

Two paper cups

Twine or string

Hole punch

Scissors

Hang the coat hanger somewhere it can swing freely, low enough that your child can reach. Punch small holes into the cups and string them with twine to turn them into little “buckets”. Have your child fill each bucket with different items (doesn’t matter what they are!) and predict which will be heavier. Hang one bucket on each end of the hanger and see if their prediction was correct. Repeat the experiment with different variables (ex: different items, different cups, different lengths of string, etc. ) and record your results.

