

# 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).

# MERMAIDS

## I'm a little mermaid

(tune: "I'm a Little Teapot")

I'm a little mermaid, see my tail,  
My friends are the dolphins, And so are the  
whales.  
I live in the ocean so big & blue,  
I love to swim with the little fish, too.  
I'm a little merman, strong and brave,  
See my big ol' tail, I can make it wave.  
I live in the ocean so big & blue.  
I love to play with the little fish, too.

## Five little mermaids

Five little mermaids were swimming near the  
shore;  
One took a dive and then there were four.  
Four little mermaids were swimming out to  
sea;  
One went for food, and then there were three.  
Three little mermaids, "Now what shall we  
do?"  
One swam away, and then there were two.  
Two little mermaids were having great fun;  
But one took a plunge, then there was one.  
One little mermaid, "I like the warm sun."  
Away she went and then there were none.

## The Waves on the Sea

(to the tune of "Wheels on the Bus")

The waves on the sea go up and down, up and  
down, up and down  
The waves on the sea go up and down all day  
long.  
The shark in the sea goes snap, snap, snap...  
The Fish in the sea go swish, swish, swish...  
The Boats in the sea go toot, toot, toot...  
The gulls on the sea go swoop, swoop,  
swoop...  
The mermaids in the sea go splash, splash,  
splash...

## Under the Sea

Talk with your child about where they think  
mermaids live. Discuss what other creatures  
would live in the sea with mermaids.

## Letter M

What letter does Mermaid start with? M!  
Look in a book, around the room, outside,  
etc. and find other things that start with the  
letter M.

