



JANUARY 2021

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31 STEM Roll and throw balls. Help your child to think of ways to make the ball roll faster.	Better Beginnings at Home Like and follow Better Beginnings on Facebook for more ideas based on the activities suggested in this calendar.		<i>Books, rhymes and songs mentioned here are suggestions only. Substitute any titles you can't find or songs you don't know with books, rhymes and songs that you already love.</i>		1 Welcome to 2021! Read, talk, sing, write and play with your child, every day, all year!	2 Read Story Saturday! <i>Read Bear in Space</i> by Deborah Abela.
3 STEM *App review sites like https://childrenandmedia.org.au/app-reviews/ can help you find quality apps for your child.	4 Read Read <i>Dear Zoo</i> by Rod Campbell. What type of animal would be the perfect pet for you?	5 Talk Play with words today. What words rhyme with dot?	6 Sing Rhyming and singing helps children learn new words. Say "There Was a Little Turtle".	7 Write When you read with your child, hold the book upside down or backwards. Does your child notice?	8 Play Playing with interlocking blocks helps make little hands strong and ready to write.	9 Read Story Saturday! <i>Lucky and Spike</i> by Norma MacDonald.
10 STEM Combine picture books with factual books to help build background knowledge.	11 Read If you have a child about to start school, read <i>Play Day School Day</i> by Toni Yuly.	12 Talk Add a new word or two to what your child is saying.	13 Sing Sing your child the story of "Polly Put the Kettle On".	14 Write Scribbling and drawing are forms of writing. Talk to your child about their pictures.	15 Play Play "Musical Statues" together.	16 Read Story Saturday! <i>Read Bee</i> by Britta Teckentrup.
17 STEM Talk about how in summer, it gets dark later than in winter.	18 Read Visit the library. Look for books that include words that are new to your child. Read them together!	19 Talk Ask your child open ended questions such as why, what and how.	20 Sing Sing "Here is the Sea". Talk with your child about going to the beach.	21 Write Help and encourage your child to add print to play, e.g. 'writing' a prescription when playing doctors.	22 Play Play with dress ups. Encourage your child to tell a story in their costume.	23 Read Story Saturday! <i>Read My Rhino is Better Than Yours</i> by Bec Barnes.
24 STEM Go outside and observe the moon tonight. If you can see the moon, what shape is it? What else can you see in the night sky?	25 Read Read <i>Old MacDonald Had a Farm</i> by Matt Shanks.	26 Talk Talk about what makes where you live special to you.	27 Sing Sing about Australian animals! Share the song and do the actions to "Cuddly Koala" with your child.	28 Write Make pop stick puppets. Act out a story together.	29 Play Books are baby's first toy. Keep books where babies and toddlers can easily play with them.	30 Read Story Saturday! <i>Read Be You</i> by Peter H. Reynolds.

*In Australia, the current recommendation is for no more than 2 hours of screen time per day for children, with screen time not recommended for children under 2 years.