



# JANUARY 2022

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>30 STEM</b> Compare the shapes, and colours of shells at the beach or leaves at the park or in your garden.	<b>31 Read</b> Enrol your child in your local public library. Membership is free! Visit and borrow often.	<b>Better Beginnings at Home</b> Like and follow Better Beginnings on Facebook and Instagram for more ideas based on the activities suggested in this calendar.		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.		<b>1 Welcome to 2022!</b> Read, talk, sing, write and play with your child, every day, all year!
<b>2 STEM</b> Play with torches. Ask your child to predict what will happen when the button is pressed. What shape is the light from the torch?	<b>3 Read</b> Did you know? Children's books have twice the number of rare words than everyday conversations.	<b>4 Talk</b> Encourage your child to speak with a relative or friend on the phone or over a video call.	<b>5 Sing</b> When you sing to your baby, they learn about language and listening skills – and lots more!	<b>6 Write</b> Encourage your child to "sign" their name on their drawings and art projects.	<b>7 Play</b> Playing games with your child helps them to learn about turn taking and sharing.	<b>8 Read</b> Story Saturday! Log in to Story Box Library via the Better Beginnings website and watch stories being read.
<b>9 STEM</b> Point out numbers on clocks, phones and in books.	<b>10 Read</b> Read <i>Wonderful Shoes</i> by Emma Bowd. What shoes do you need for different purposes?	<b>11 Talk</b> Talk with your child about the shape of their favourite toys.	<b>12 Sing</b> Say the rhyme "On My Toe There is a Flea".	<b>13 Write</b> Encourage your child to draw on a blackboard or paint on an easel.	<b>14 Play</b> Look for triangles today!	<b>15 Read</b> Story Saturday! Read <i>This is a Book of Shapes</i> by Kenneth Kraegel.
<b>16 STEM</b> Watch the moon this week. What shape is it? Ask your child to think of other things that are the same shape.	<b>17 Read</b> Aim to read aloud to your child for at least 15- 20 minutes every day. It doesn't have to be all at once!	<b>18 Talk</b> Talk about what age your child will turn at their next birthday. How many candles will be on the cake?	<b>19 Sing</b> Find out when your library holds Rhyme Time. Join in with the rhymes, songs and fun!	<b>20 Write</b> Dig in the garden! Scooping sand helps develop fine motor skills needed to write.	<b>21 Play</b> Play balloon volleyball. Count how many times the balloon goes back and forth.	<b>22 Read</b> Story Saturday! Read <i>Over in Australia: Amazing Animals Downunder</i> by Marianne Berkes.
<b>23 STEM</b> Bath time can be a great learning time. Name body parts, observe which toys sink or float or read a bath book.	<b>24 Read</b> Read <i>Night Monkey, Day Monkey</i> by Julia Donaldson.	<b>25 Talk</b> Talk about your child's favourite animals and make the sounds the animals make.	<b>26 Sing</b> Sing "Baby Koala" or any song that you know that is about Australian animals.	<b>27 Write</b> Write the first letter of your child's name in the sandpit or at the beach. Make the sound/s of the letter.	<b>28 Play</b> Blow bubbles with your child today.	<b>29 Read</b> Story Saturday! Read <i>Once I Heard a Little Wombat</i> by Renée Tremblé.