



# December 2023

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## Better Beginnings Home Literacy Calendar



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>31 STEM</b> Read <i>The Magic of Me!</i> By Ben Cort.	<b>Better Beginnings at Home</b> Like and follow <b>Better Beginnings on Facebook</b> or <b>@betterbeginnings_slwa on Instagram</b> for more ideas based on the activities suggested in this calendar.		<i>Substitute any titles you can't find or songs you don't know with books, rhymes, and songs that you already love.</i>		<b>1 Play</b> Play "Follow the Leader" together. Do an action for your child to copy.	<b>2 Read</b> Story Saturday! Read <i>Always Never Always</i> by Meg McKinlay.
<b>3 STEM</b> Read <i>When I Can Fly</i> by Katie Stewart. Talk about the differences between the country and the city.	<b>4 Read</b> Read <i>Run Pups Run</i> by Kerri Day and Nicky Johnston. Have you ever taken a dog to the beach?	<b>5 Talk</b> Make a mystery box or bag. Help your child to guess what's inside by giving simple clues.	<b>6 Sing</b> Sing 'The Grand Old Duke of York'.	<b>7 Write</b> Look for question marks today. Are there any in your favourite book?	<b>8 Play</b> Play on a felt board. Tell or make up stories, say a rhyme or group felt figures by size or colour.	<b>9 Read</b> Story Saturday! Read <i>Peace on Earth</i> by Smriti Halls and David Litchfield.
<b>10 STEM</b> Sort magnetic letters into "straight", "curvy" and "both" categories.	<b>11 Read</b> Read <i>These Little Feet</i> by Hayley Rawsthorne and Briony Stewart.	<b>12 Talk</b> How many different languages can you say the word "hello" in?	<b>13 Sing</b> Say the rhyme 'Here's A Cup'. Watch the video on the Better Beginnings YouTube channel.	<b>14 Write</b> Let your child help with writing on greeting cards or gift tags.	<b>15 Play</b> Play with boxes! Make a costume, or a car, or a city! Or anything you can imagine!	<b>16 Read</b> Story Saturday! Celebrate the birthday of Quentin Blake by reading some of his books.
<b>17 STEM</b> Read <i>Can You Teach a Fish to Climb a Tree?</i> By Jane Godwin and Terry Denton.	<b>18 Read</b> Read <i>If I Was a Horse</i> by Sophie Blackall. What animal would you most like to be?	<b>19 Talk</b> Encourage your child to "read" a book they know well to you. Ask them what happens next in the story.	<b>20 Sing</b> Sing 'I'm So Glad To See You'.	<b>21 Write</b> Look for rectangles today. How many can you find?	<b>22 Play</b> Play in the kitchen! Sort cans of food by size or colour of labels.	<b>23 Read</b> Story Saturday! Read <i>Dharma the Christmas Llama</i> by Matt Cosgrove.
<b>24 Christmas Eve</b>  Read <i>How Does Santa Go Down the Chimney?</i> by Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen.	<b>25 Christmas Day</b>  Have a very merry day with lots of reading, singing, family and fun!	<b>26 Talk</b> Make up nonsense words together. Playing with sounds in words develops a child's language skills.	<b>27 Sing</b> Say the bouncing rhyme 'Mother and Father and Uncle John'.	<b>28 Write</b> Mark important family dates together in your new diary or calendar.	<b>29 Play</b> Can you find the smallest book in your house? Who does it belong to?	<b>30 Read</b> Read <i>Your Head's Not the Place to Store Problems</i> by Josh Pyke and Stephen Michael King.