December 2024 Early Learning Calendar

Encourage a love of learning in your child by doing one fun activity each day. *Visit griver.org or your local library for more ideas, books and programs to do with your child.*
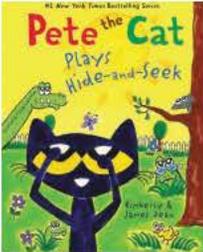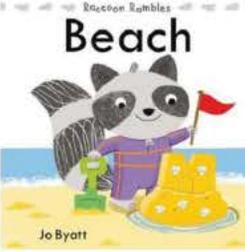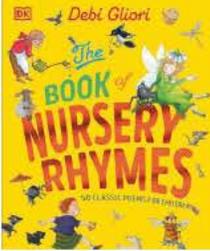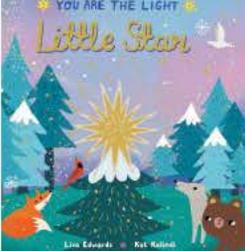
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Read 1 — How old are you? Read (at least) that many books today.	**Count** 2 — Find and count five red things in your house.	**Talk** 3 — Name words that start with the /d/ sound.	**Move** 4 — Lie on the floor with your arms and legs spread out like a star.	**Play** 5 — Pretend you work at a grocery store. Use recycled boxes and cans from the kitchen.	**Read** 6 — Read Bear's Big Dreaming by Michael Rosen to learn about animals in winter.	**Explore** 7 — Go outside and look at the stars in the night sky.
Move 8 — Scribble with yellow crayon on a star shape.	**Read** 9 — Read Stacey Speaks Up to celebrate author Stacey Abrams's birthday.	**Count** 10 — Count the stripes on a candy cane.	**Talk** 11 — Name five words that rhyme with "star."	**Play** 12 — Mix up the pieces of two puzzles, then sort them by puzzle.	13 — Visit your library today.	**Play** 14 — Pretend you are a monkey. How would you move? How would you sound?
Explore 15 — Help a grown-up make cupcakes on National Cupcake Day!	**Move** 16 — Do the actions as you say the nursery rhyme, "One, Two, Buckle My Shoe."	**Read** 17 — Read a book about Pete the Cat to celebrate creator James Dean's birthday.	**Explore** 18 — Use building blocks with a friend, and try to copy each other's design.	**Play** 19 — Create an indoor obstacle course with chairs and pillows.	**Talk** 20 — Tell a grown-up: when you are worried, what are two things you can do to feel better?	**Count** 21 — Use your fingers as you say the nursery rhyme, "Hickory Dickory Dock."
Explore 22 — Sprinkle some birdseed outside in a safe place, and watch the birds that come to eat.	**Count** 23 — Ask a grown-up to help you count the number of people in your family.	**Move** 24 — Have a "holiday hop" and dance along to your favorite tunes.	**Read** 25 — Read from a collection of nursery rhymes. Find a book at griver.org.	**Talk** 26 — Would you rather visit a warm place or a cold place? Why?	**Move** 27 — Can you move like a penguin? How about a polar bear? Or a seal?	28 — Visit your library today.
Play 29 — Play hide and seek with a friend – outside or inside!	**Explore** 30 — Smell the spices in your kitchen. Which one do you like best?	**Count** 31 — It's New Year's Eve! Practice counting down from 10 and cheer at the end.				

Every CHILD Ready to READ® @ your library®

Every Child Ready to Read® is a project of the Association for Library Service to Children and the Public Library Association, divisions of the American Library Association.

GREAT RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY

December Booklist:
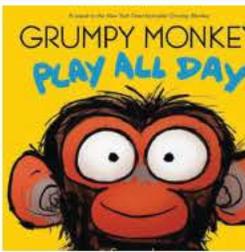
Bear's Big Dreaming by Michael Rosen	Grumpy Monkey Play All Day by Suzanne Lang	
Stacey Speaks Up by Stacey Abrams	The Most Beautiful Winter by Cristina Sitja Rubio	
Pete the Cat Plays Hide-and-Seek by Kim Dean	Beach by Jo Byatt (board book)	
The Book of Nursery Rhymes by Debi Gliori	Little Star by Lisa Edwards (board book)	

December Songs/Rhymes:

Hickory Dickory Dock

Hickory, dickory, dock,

The mouse ran up the clock.

The clock struck **one**, *(hold up one finger)*

The mouse ran down,

Hickory, dickory, dock!

Continue singing/chanting the rhyme as you count up to five, and give a clap on each verse!

Find this song on these recordings:
Preschool Favorites (Music CD Children Pre)
Hickory, Dickory, Dock by Megan Borgert-Spaniol (Kit E Bor)

One, Two, Buckle My Shoe

Count on your fingers and pretend to do actions indicated.

One, two, buckle my shoe.

Three, four, knock at the door.

Five, six, pick up sticks.

Seven, eight, lay them straight.

Nine, ten, a big fat hen!

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Great River Regional Library 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

Is your child registered for 1000 Books Before Kindergarten? Help your little one get ready to read by reading 1000 books before entering kindergarten! You'll build early learning skills while bonding with your child; it's a win-win! Sign up through our Beanstack site, www.griver.beanstack.org, or the Beanstack Tracker app. Or, sign up at your local library and find out how they award small prizes.