# NBPL’s Early Literacy Fun at Home!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>BABY</strong> 6-24 months</th>
<th><strong>TODDLERS</strong> 2-3yrs</th>
<th><strong>PRESCHOOL</strong> 3-5yrs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SING</strong></td>
<td>Sing songs and play music. Singing helps children hear the sounds that make up words.</td>
<td>Clap with your little one while you sing your favorite songs!</td>
<td>Practice strengthening those little fingers with hand motions like in the Itsy Bitsy Spider and the Wheels on the Bus. Fingerplays are great, too!*</td>
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<td><strong>TALK</strong></td>
<td>Talk about books and ask your child about their favorite stories from the day.</td>
<td>Go for a walk and talk about what you see!</td>
<td>Play “I Spy” as you go for a walk!</td>
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<td><strong>READ</strong></td>
<td>Read together every day, especially before bed as it calms the body down.</td>
<td>Let your little one lead the way—turn the pages together!</td>
<td>Ask who, what, and where questions as you read a story.</td>
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<td><strong>WRITE</strong></td>
<td>Write or draw with your child.</td>
<td>Place sand or cornmeal on a lipped cookie sheet and help your child draw shapes and letters.</td>
<td>Practice increasing hand strength with clothespins, squirt bottles, and playdough, too!</td>
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<td><strong>PLAY</strong></td>
<td>Play helps children learn about the world. It encourages creativity, critical thinking, cooperation, and taking turns.</td>
<td>Bounce together! Snuggle your little one on your lap and pretend to blast into outer space.*</td>
<td>Play songs with guided movements to acquaint your child with following directions.</td>
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*Staff favorites on next page
NBPL’s Staff Favorite Fingerplays

Bouncing Baby
Bouncing, Bouncing Baby on my knee
Bouncing, bouncing 1 2 3! (lift or big bounce)
Clapping, clapping with baby on my knee
Clapping, clapping 1 2 3!
Hugging, hugging baby on my knee
Hugging, hugging 1 2 3!

Bounce, Tickle and Hug
I bounce you here,
I bounce you there
I bounce you, bounce you, everywhere!
I tickle you here,
I tickle you there
I tickle you, tickle you everywhere!
I hug you here,
I hug you there,
I hug you, hug you, everywhere!

Bouncing, Bouncing/Jumping, Jumping
Bouncing, bouncing
Bouncing, bouncing
Hop, hop, hop
Hop, hop, hop
Bouncing, bouncing, bouncing,
Bouncing, bouncing, bouncing
Now we stop
Now we stop

These are Baby’s Fingers
These are baby’s fingers, touch child’s fingers
These are baby’s toes, touch child’s toes
This is baby’s bellybutton touch child’s tummy
Round and round it goes! tickle child’s tummy

Tick Tock
Tick tock, tick tock, I’m a little cuckoo clock
Tick tock, tick tock, Now I’m striking one o’clock – cuckoo (lift in air once – rock side to side)
Tick tock, tick tock, I’m a little cuckoo clock
Tick tock, tick tock, Now I’m striking 2 o’clock cuckoo-cuckoo (lift in air twice – rock side to side)
(repeat 3, 4, 5)

Dancing Fingers
Dance your fingers up, dance your fingers down
Dance your fingers to the side and dance them round and round
Dance them on your shoulders, dance them on your head
Dance them on your belly, and now put them to bed

Patty Cake
Patty cake, patty cake, baker’s man.
Bake me a cake, as fast as you can.
Roll it! Pat it! Mark it with a B.
And stick in in the oven
For baby and me!

Itsy Bitsy Spider
The Itsy Bitsy Spider
Went up the water spout
Down came the rain
And washed the spider out
Out came the sun
And dried up all the rain
And the itsy bitsy spider
Went up the spout again

Open Shut Them
Open Shut Them
Open Shut Them
Give a little clap, clap, clap
Open Shut Them
Open Shut Them
Put them in your lap, lap, lap