

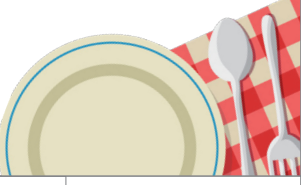



# November: Family

National Family Literacy Month

**How to Share Books with Your Child** • Repetition is important when sharing books with your child. If they have a favorite, read it enthusiastically! Use different voices and makes noises mentioned in the book. Point out words as you read them so your child begins to connect the words and noises you are making to what is on the page. When sharing books about ABC's, coloring or counting books, remember that you are reading for enjoyment, not to try to teach your child skills.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Does your family have special favorite foods? Spend time cooking a meal together.	<b>Book Nook</b> Create a cozy reading nook for your family.	Put on some music and dance with your family.	Spend time drawing pictures of the members of your family. Do some live nearby and others far away? Talk about the difference.	Cut out the pictures from yesterday and make them into puppets by taping them to popsicle sticks or straws. Put on a puppet show about your family.	Talk about what family means to you. Have an older adult tell your child a story from their childhood.	<b>Visit your Library</b> Find books about families. Ask a librarian if your library has <i>Feast for 10</i> by Cathryn Falwell.
<b>Native American Heritage</b> National Native American Heritage Month: Try reading <i>We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga</i> by Traci Sorell with your child	Talk about some of the animals in your neighborhood and whether they are a part of a family. 	Have your child name one thing that makes each member of your family special.	Plan a pretend family trip together. Where would you go and what would you do together? 	Have a family story time and read a book together. Have each person pick a favorite story.	<b>Mother Goose Time!</b> Chook, Chook, Chook, Chook, Chook, Good morning, Mrs. Hen How many chickens have you got? Madam I've got ten. Four of them are yellow, And four of them are brown, And two of them are speckled red, The nicest in the town.	Celebrate family volunteer day. Can you spend some time helping a family member? 
Play a game as a family together. If you don't have one, make one up. Fun Maine fact: Milton Bradley, famous game creator, was born in Vienna, ME.	Find objects in your home that start with the same letters as each family member's name.	Help your child draw a picture of an animal home. Talk about the different kinds of homes that animals have.	<b>Sing You are My Sunshine</b> You are my sunshine. My only sunshine. You make me happy when skies are gray. You'll never know dear how much I love you. Please don't take my sunshine away. 	Create a family tree together and talk about different kinds of family members including siblings, parents, grandparents, and cousins.	<b>Family Karaoke</b> Download songs and lyrics for a karaoke night. Seeing words and singing them at the same time is a great pre-literacy skill.	Trace your hand a few times onto a piece of paper to make a turkey family.
Talk about some of your family traditions or create a new one.	Write a letter to a family member who lives far away and mail it.	Trace the handprints of each family member and label them.	Ask your child to set the table. Talk about who will sit at each place. 	Talk about what you feel grateful for with your family.	Have each family member draw a self-portrait.	Help your child write a letter to a family member.
Take a walk or go out somewhere as a family.	Let your child pick out books for family members to read to them.	<b>Tell a Story</b> Have your child make up a story about their favorite animal family. 	<b>Dough Family</b> Make salt dough or use Playdoh to sculpt models of your family members.	Have your child tell you a story about something they have done with another family member.	<b>Dinner Guest</b> While your family is eating together, talk about a favorite story character you would invite to dinner and what you would eat. 	<b>Science Day</b> Do a simple science experiment together. For example, fill numerous cups with water and add different colors of food coloring. Have your child mix two colors to create a new one. Help them observe what happens.

We'd love to know what you think about our calendar! Take our brief survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MECalendar>