

# Welcome to Hiawatha Public Library's Early Literacy Summer Reading Program for our youngest space explorers ages 0-18 months

Why should you and your child, ages 0 to 18 months, participate in this early literacy\* based program?

- It is never too early to start preparing children for reading success. Children who have been read to and been given the opportunity to develop certain pre-reading skills from an early age have a better chance to benefit from reading instruction when they arrive at school.
- Parents and caregivers play important roles as a baby's first teacher. This program is meant to be interactive between child and their parent or caregiver.
  - Studies have shown that children who have been introduced to libraries and library programs from an early age are more likely to become lifelong readers.
  - It is a fun bonding experience!

The term "early literacy" refers to everything children know about reading and writing before they actually learn to read.

[www.hiawathapubliclibrary.org](http://www.hiawathapubliclibrary.org)



JUNE 3 - JULY 27

*EARLY  
LITERACY  
SUMMER  
READING  
PROGRAM*

AGES 0 - 18 MONTHS

My name is \_\_\_\_\_



Check off each activity as completed. When all activities are finished, bring your log to Hiawatha Public Library by July 27 to receive a board book and toy. One sheet per child, please.

- |                          |   |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Visit the library together.                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sing the ABCs (over and over!)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Recite a favorite nursery rhyme together.     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Point out shapes, letters, and numbers when you see them on toys, signs, in books, etc. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Attend a story time at HPL.                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Clap in rhythm to music or a song.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sing a lullaby at bedtime.                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Play a baby friendly musical instrument like maracas or jingle bells.                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Share a simple ABC, number or shape book.     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do a simple puzzle together.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Point to the words on the page while reading. | <input type="checkbox"/> | Let your child hold a book and practice turning the pages.                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Read a rhyming book and emphasize the rhymes. | <input type="checkbox"/> | Use opposites such as big/small, top/bottom, over/under when playing.                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Retell a favorite story together.             | <input type="checkbox"/> | Practice writing letters with fingerpaints, shaving cream or other fun materials.       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Attend Play & Learn at HPL.                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Take your baby on a stroll through your neighborhood.                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Share a board book.                           |                          |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Show your baby family pictures.               |                          |   |