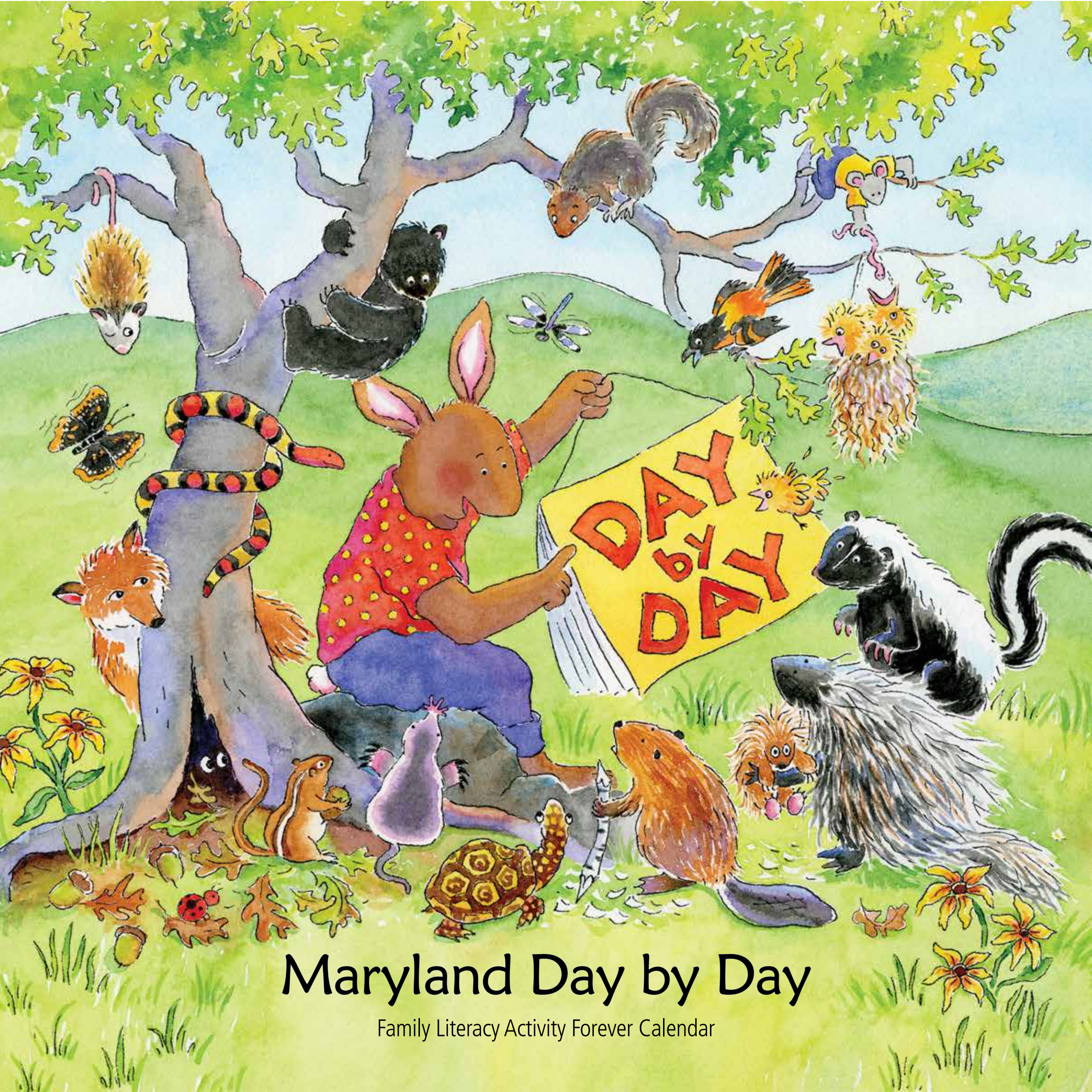


Maryland Day by Day

Family Literacy Activity Forever Calendar



Seek & Find

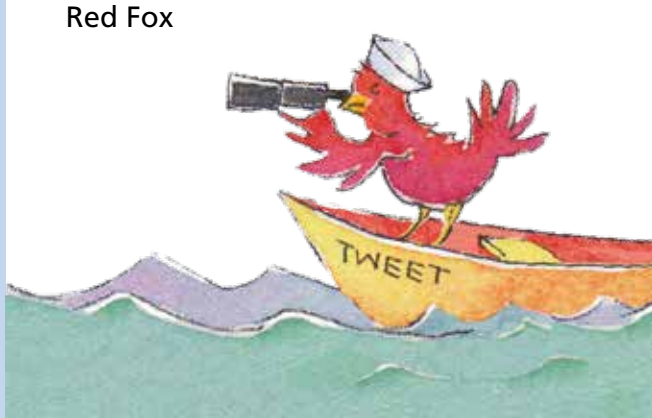
Is there a detective in the house? Each month's illustration features a **Seek & Find** to challenge your child's attention to detail. Have fun learning about each month's topic while hunting for all the small objects hidden in the pictures. Good luck!

~Marcia Leiter, Illustrator

On the Cover

Maryland Flora and Fauna Seek & Find

White Oak Tree & Acorns
Black-Eyed Susans
North American Porcupine
Eastern Striped Skunk
American Beaver
Opossum
Star-Nosed Mole
Gray Squirrel
Field Mouse
Eastern Chipmunk
Box Turtle
Scarlet Snake
Baltimore Oriole and Chicks
Baltimore Checkerspot Butterfly
Dragonfly
Ladybug
Black Bear
Red Fox



Welcome!

The Maryland State Library is proud to introduce the Maryland Day by Day Family Literacy Activity Calendar. This calendar is designed to be a "Forever" calendar, meaning it can be used over again, year after year. Each month contains little boxes in which to fill the dates (ideally, with pencil!) so that the days/dates can be changed the next year.

You will be excited to watch your child discover whole new worlds through books, reading, nature exploration, and arts and crafts. The activities that fill this calendar are selected to support the areas of learning that should help your child become ready for school and ready for reading. Our goal is to help provide you with the tools that make spending time together easy and fun, while at the same time serving as a guide for learning new things about our state and our world. In addition to suggesting activities using materials found in your home, we provide lists of books and music which you can find at your local library, along with many other educational resources. Public libraries across Maryland and other organizations are here to assist and support you as your family transitions through the early learning years to the school years.

We hope that this calendar provides your family with a love of learning to span the entire year, from January to December.

About the Calendar

Children love to learn, and your child learns best when doing fun and interesting activities with you. This calendar provides daily activities for you to do together that are enjoyable and educational. These activities will help you get your child ready to succeed in school. Many of the activities require no supplies or use only common household items. "Play" is a child's "work" so simply playing with your child using the daily activities is the goal. Remember, the things you learn with joy, you'll remember forever.

Tips for Using the Calendar

- Every month includes a booklist of suggested titles to read with your child. These are just suggestions. Choose books together with your child that you will both enjoy.
- Each day has an activity to do together. Like the booklists, these are suggestions. You can change them to better suit your child or make up your own activity.
- Some activities use salt dough or homemade play dough. Easy recipes for both are in the "Arts & Crafts" section of this calendar located in the back.
- If a book or activity is not interesting to your child, stop and try something else. The goal is to make learning fun.
- Children love to read the same books over and over, and doing so gives them a certain assurance and confidence. Read a book as many times as a child wants.
- Every child learns at his/her own pace. If you are doing these activities with more than one child, make sure to praise each child's effort without comparing them to each other.

Tips for Reading Out Loud

- Reading out loud and talking about books is one of the most important things you can do to get your child ready for reading and success in school.
- Set the Mood: Make yourself and your child comfortable. Sit next to each other or with your child on your lap. Develop a routine of when you might read together.
- Preparation: Look over the book before reading it together to make sure you are comfortable with it. Hold the book so the child can see it.
- Expression: Change your voice for different characters; make your voice soft and loud. Put life and energy into your reading!
- Patience: Take time to answer your child's questions. Their questions show that they are engaged in the story. It's ok if your young child can't sit still through the story. A child who moves around or plays with a quiet toy may still be listening to every word.
- Participation: Let them repeat phrases with you or leave out a word here and there; see if they can fill in the blank. Look at the pictures to help tell the story; ask your child what is happening or what happens next.
- Pace: Don't race while reading. Take your time.

Tips for Using the Library

- **Visit Often:** Your local public library always has new books and other resources for you and your child to explore.
- **Attend Events:** Most libraries have free programs for young children such as story times, puppet shows and summer reading programs.
- **Go Online:** You can access the Internet for free and find out information on health and wellness, child safety and school readiness.
- **Ask a Librarian:** If you have trouble figuring out where to start or how to use the library, ask!

This is just the beginning

There is a lot of good information that wouldn't fit in this calendar. Use the links and resources listed in the back of the calendar to learn more. There are also organizations in your community that offer a wealth of information. This calendar provides contact information for many of these organizations, but be sure to check for others that may be near you.

Remember to have fun with your child as they read, learn, and grow!

All Children are Learners

They are unique individuals that learn and develop at different rates. Children learn through play as they explore the world. Your child's motor skills, language, thinking and social development change dramatically as they grow. Understanding these changes will help you encourage your child to learn and get ready for school.

Reminder: Children develop at their own pace and these are common milestones to guide you.

Babies (Birth to eighteen months)

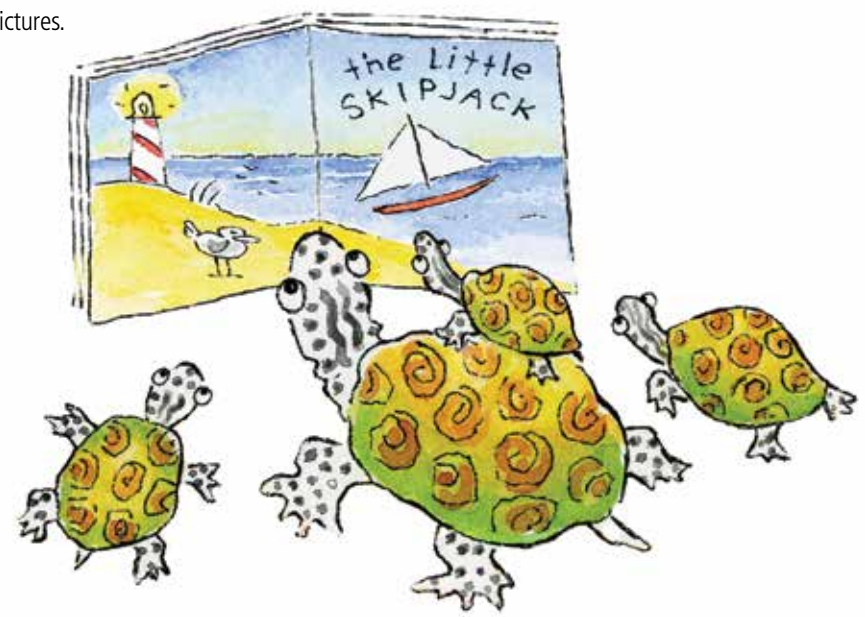
- They use sounds to attract attention.
- They are attracted to patterns and high contrasts of color.
- They respond to human voices, music, singing and sounds.
- They rely on senses and like to touch, smell, grasp and taste.
- They learn to understand simple words and directions.
- They learn to imitate simple sounds and motions.
- They learn to help hold a book, turn pages and lift flaps in flap books.
- They begin to understand many words, far more than the number they can say when speech begins.
- They have a very limited attention span.

Toddlers (Eighteen months to two years old)

- They watch and imitate their parents.
- They want to learn to use things.
- They like stories, songs, rhymes and looking at books.
- They tend to play next to, but not with, others.
- They listen and repeat words.
- They know how to hold a book and turn the pages.
- They do not yet understand numbers but will repeat them.
- They are just learning to talk so it may be hard to understand what they are saying.
- They are just learning how to speak softer and louder.

Preschoolers (Three and four-year-olds)

- They are becoming independent and are beginning to have friends.
- They are imaginative, talkative and they understand rules and consequences.
- They know that printed words have meaning and may recognize some words.
- They can ask questions and explain things to others.
- They understand how to count and may be able to count to ten or higher.
- They can talk in short sentences.
- They want to make friends and play in groups.
- They take turns in conversations.
- They can print their name.
- They can draw pictures.



Books to Read

Bath Time! by Sandra Boynton

The Berenstain Bears Visit the Dentist by Stan and Jan Berenstain

Froggy Gets a Doggy by Jonathan London

Growing Vegetable Soup by Lois Ehlert

How Do Dinosaurs Get Well Soon? by Jane Yolen

My Daddy Is a Pretzel: Yoga for Parents and Kids by Baron Baptiste

My Trip to the Hospital by Mercer Mayer

No Dragons for Tea: Fire Safety for Kids (and Dragons) by Jean E. Pendziwol

Please, Baby, Please by Spike Lee and Tonya Lewis Lee

Scaredy Squirrel by Mélanie Watt

Eating Healthy



MyPlate illustrates the five food groups that are the building blocks for a healthy diet using a familiar image—a place setting for a meal. Before you eat, think about what goes on your plate or in your cup or bowl.



Seek & Find

Bathtime

A Bandaid on a Box
A Mouse Toothbrush
A Bunny Jumping Rope
A Fire Escape Plan
A Bug in a Boat
A Mouse Doctor
A Brush for a Bunny
A Bird in a Bath
A Bunny Playing Ball
A Comb in a Mirror

January: Health and Safety

This calendar is designed to be a "Forever" calendar. It can be used over again, year after year. Please note that each month contains little boxes for each day of the month. Use these boxes to write in the date for each day of the month (ideally, with pencil!) so that the days/dates can be changed the next year.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Make an evacuation plan in case of a fire. Teach your child to "Stop, Drop and Roll."	Let your child cut out or draw various foods they like and that are healthy for them. Glue them on a paper plate and talk about them.	How about a healthy snack? Try Ants on a Log! Take a stalk of celery, fill the center with peanut butter and put raisins on top. The raisins look like the ants crawling along the log. Ask your child to make up a story about the ants.	**Song Day!** *I like to eat, eat, eat apples and bananas.* *I like to eat, eat, eat apples and bananas.* Now change the vowel sound to A. *I like to ate, ate, ate ay-pples and ba-nay-nays* *I like to ate, ate, ate ay-pples and ba-nay-nays.*	**Practice Dog Safety** Always ask the pet owner if you can pet their dog before reaching out and touching them. Pretend a stuffed animal is a real dog and practice petting them.	 Talk about when to wash your hands. Ask your child before and after what activities they think they should wash their hands.	**Visit Your Library!** Choose books about good health and eating well.
What are some vegetables you have in your house? Make some soup! If you don't have enough ingredients, draw all the vegetables you would put in your soup.	Talk about the importance of limiting the number of sugary foods you eat. Have a "No Sugar" day today.	Exercise by giving the children a sequence of two things to do. "Jump up, then sit down." Increase to three things. "Touch your nose, turn around, then sit down." Also sing *Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes* to keep up the energy!	**Bath Time!**  During bath time, talk about the importance of being clean. Make up your own bath song!	Focus on grains. What are they? How many different grains can you find and eat?	Exercise by playing tag or jump rope. If it is too cold outside, dance inside. If your child is a baby, practice bouncing the baby on your knees. You can use the repetition to sing the alphabet or count.	It's a New Year! Make a list with your child of their favorite memories of last year. Have them draw some of the memories to share with friends and family.
 Find out your child's favorite vegetable, and cook a meal that includes it.	Draw safety signs like "Stop" and "Yield." Talk about what they mean when crossing the street. Talk about traffic lights and their colors. Have everyone play the game Red Light, Green Light.	**Science Day!**  Talk about seeds, plants, and how different vegetables are grown. Identify the different parts of plants, such as the roots, leaves, stem etc.	**Mother Goose Time!** *Wee Willy Winkie* *Runs through the town* *Upstairs, downstairs, in his nightgown.* *Knocking at the windows,* *yelling through the locks* *"Are all the children in their beds? For it is nine o'clock!"*	Concentrate on showing your child how to brush their teeth well. Learn the toothbrush rhyme: *I have a little toothbrush,* *I hold it very tight.* *I brush my teeth each morning and then again at night.*	Draw pictures of different fruits and vegetables and save them for tomorrow's activity.	Take the pictures from yesterday and put them on popsicle sticks or straws to make a puppet show about eating healthy. Invite everyone in the house to participate.
Help your child make a noisemaker out of pasta, cereal, or beans by placing some in a paper cup and taping another on top. Use it to read the rhymes on this page.	**Make a Nutrition Train!** The body works like a "Nutrition Train." Along the way, whatever children eat gets loaded onto the train. Bad foods slow the train down. Healthy foods speed the train up and help it work right. Make your own train. Draw the good things that are part of the train!	**Mother Goose Time!** *Little Miss Muffet* *sat on her tuffet,* *eating her curds and whey.* *Along came a spider, who* *sat down beside her and* *frightened Miss Muffet away.* *Today we call curds and whey* *cottage cheese!*	Play a game outside like Tag, Kick the Can or Hide and Go Seek. If it is too cold to be outside, then exercise by putting on music and dancing fast. Talk about some of your favorite songs.	Talk about being safe. Make sure everyone in the family knows their name, address, telephone number, and what to do in case of an emergency.	**Song Day!** Sing *Are You Eating* to the tune of *Frére Jacques*: *Are you eating* *Are you eating* *Healthy foods?* *Healthy foods?* *For your body needs them* *For your body needs them* *Everyday* *Everyday.*	 Talk about the right way to cross a street: hold hands, look left, then right, then left. Try to draw the signs you see every day.
Everyone dance together and you can make up your own tune. Then do the Hokey Pokey!	 Let your child make their own pretend first-aid kit for dramatic play with a box, cotton balls and swabs, popsicle sticks, and cut up gauze or use toilet paper.	Cows provide dairy and milk makes your body and bones strong. Can you drink two glasses of milk today and talk about all the different bones in your body?	 Talk about how important vegetables are to being healthy. Try to eat three different vegetables today.	**Song Day!** *Head, shoulders, knees, and toes, knees and toes.* *Head, shoulders, knees, and toes, knees and toes.* *And eyes and ears and mouth and nose.* *Head, shoulders, knees, and toes, knees and toes.*	**Eat the Rainbow!**  Help your child list or draw a fruit for each color in the rainbow.	**Mother Goose Time!** *Old MacDonald had a farm e-i-e-i-o. And on that farm he had a cow e-i-e-i-o.* *With a moo moo here and a moo moo there.* *Here a moo, there a moo, everywhere a moo moo.* *Old MacDonald had a farm e-i-e-i-o.*

Books to Read

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin Jr.

A Color of His Own by Leo Lionni

Elmer by David McKee

Freight Train by Donald Crews

The Day the Crayons Quit by Drew Daywalt

Go Away, Big Green Monster by Ed Emberley

I Ain't Gonna Paint No More! by Karen Beaumont

Kitten's First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes

Little Black Crow by Chris Raschka

Mr. Tiger Goes Wild by Peter Brown

One by Kathryn Otoshi

The Pink House by Kate Salley Palmer

Pinkalicious by Victoria Kann

The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister

You Can't Take a Balloon into the Metropolitan Museum by Jacqueline Preiss Weitzman

The Chesapeake Bay

The Chesapeake Bay is the largest estuary in the United States, measuring almost 200 miles long, It is thought to be over 12,000 years old, forming when the glaciers melted, flooding the Susquehanna River. It is home to over 2,500 species of plants, 300 species of finfish, and almost 20 species of shellfish, including the blue crab and eastern oyster. Oysters help improve water quality and provide food and habitat to other animals. Although over-harvesting, disease, and habitat loss have led to a drop in population, recovery efforts are underway to replenish oysters in the bay, revitalizing the Chesapeake ecosystem.



www.chesapeakebay.net/issues/whats-at-risk/oysters

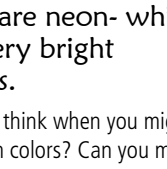
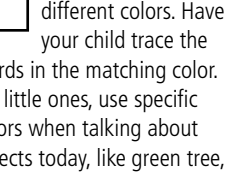
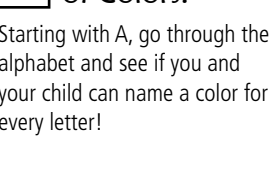
Seek & Find

Find everything that is:

Red	Black
Yellow	White
Blue	Gray
Green	Pink
Orange	Brown
Violet	Multicolor

February: Colors

Maryland Spotlight: Jerdine Nolen Born in Mississippi and raised in Illinois, Jerdine Nolen now calls Maryland home. She has always loved words and writing and has spent her life as an educator and children's book author. She has written many picture books, including *In My Momma's Kitchen, Hewitt Anderson's Great Big Life,* and the *Plantzilla* series; early chapter books, including the *Bradford Street Buddies* and *Max & Jax* series; and middle grade novels, including *Eliza's Freedom Road* and *Calico Girl.* Look for Nolen's picture book, *Freedom Bird,* in 2020. Many of her books have been chosen as nominees or winners of state books awards and have been noted in the children's publishing world as a Best Book of the Year. Nolen states, "Stories help us examine the world we live in. Stories give us hopeful answers and insights to questions no one person can answer on their own—stories help us share our lives."

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
☐ Science Day! Do you know the colors that make the rainbow? R- Red, O-Orange, Y- Yellow, G- Green, B- Blue, I- Indigo, and V- Violet Also known as the Color Spectrum! Draw a rainbow using those colors.	☐  Make a giant heart for your library or librarian. Take it to them the next time you visit and tell them why you love your library!	☐ Today's color is red. Get your heart rate up by doing jumping jacks! Have your child spell their name or count while they jump.	☐ Today's color is yellow.  Think of all the flowers that have yellow in them. Did you know the state flower is the Black-Eyed Susan? Have you ever seen one?	☐ The color of the day is gray. Castles are often gray and made of stone. Can you draw a castle and then make up a story about the family that lives in the castle?"	☐ The color of the day is blue like the sea. Sing *A Sailor Went to Sea* and use hand motions. *A sailor went to sea sea sea* *To see what he could see see see.* *But all that he could see see see* *Was the bottom of the deep blue sea sea sea.*	☐ Visit Your Library! Check out some books from this month's booklist. If possible, get *I Ain't Gonna Paint No More!, Kitten's First Full Moon, Little Black Crow* and *Mr. Tiger Goes Wild.*
☐  Make some paint from yogurt and food coloring! If you don't have yogurt, use shaving cream. If you have a copy, read *I Ain't Gonna Paint No More!*	☐ The color of the day is white. Make little snowmen out of cotton balls and practice your counting. What are your favorite things that are white?	☐  Make Valentine cards together. Give them to people in your family or to your friends.	☐ Today you get to pick the color of the day! Point out things that are your color. Help your child write their name using their color. Cut it out and hang it up!	☐ Today's color is plum. *Little Jack Horner* *Sat in a corner* *Eating his Christmas pie.* *He put in his thumb* *And pulled out a plum* *And said "what a good boy am I!"*	☐ Today's colors are black and white. Some books are illustrated in only black and white. Look through your books to find one. If you have a copy, read *Kitten's First Full Moon.* Ask your child to tell you the story.	☐ Color Story Time!  Pretend you're a librarian and have a story time for your family and stuffed animals.
☐ Today's color is brown. Make up a teddy bear action rhyme! For young ones, try bouncing them up and down and clapping hands.	☐ Today's color is tan. Try saying this tongue twister five times: *She sells sea shells by the sea shore!*	☐ The color for the day is navy blue. Spend some time looking through magazines or books and seeing all the things that are navy blue. What is your favorite? Talk about how this shade of blue is called navy blue.	☐ The color of the day is lime green.  Talk about all the things that grow! How many are lime green?	☐ Today's color is gold. Let's make a baggy fish! Take a brown paper bag and fill it with newspaper. Tie the end of the bag with a twist tie or rubber band. Cut the end part into two fins. Decorate your fish using gold and your other favorite colors!	☐ Make bubbles with dish soap & water.  What colors are your bubbles? Sing a song about bubbles while you pop them!	☐ Today's color is pink. Do *This Little Piggie* on your child's fingers or toes.
☐ Today's color is black.  Go outside or look outside and see what kinds of birds you can see. Do you see any birds that are black? If you have a copy, read *Little Black Crow.*	☐ Today's colors are pastels. Rose, peach and lavender are examples of pastels. If you want to make your own pastel eggs: Boil the eggs and once they are cool dip them in a cup with vinegar and a few drops of food coloring.	☐ The colors for today are silver and gold. Do you know the friendship song? *Make new friends but keep the old,* *Some are silver, the other are gold.* If you have several people, try singing the song in a round.	☐ Today's color is orange. Read *Mr. Tiger Goes Wild.* Talk about his feelings throughout the book. How did the book make you feel?	☐ Multi-color day! Can you think of an animal that has many colors? If one doesn't come to mind, create your own animal and make up a story about where it lives. Draw the animal and all the colors that make it beautiful.	☐ Spend time cutting up a newspaper or magazine looking for the letters in your name. Try to find all different color letters. Glue them onto paper for your very own name plate.	☐ Gather all the books and magazines around your house and pretend that it's a library. Sign up family and friends for library cards and let them check out books.
☐ Today's colors are neon- which are very bright shades. Can you think when you might see neon colors? Can you make up a rhyme about neon colors? For little ones, try bouncing them on your knees to the rhythm of all the neon colors you can think of!	☐ Use your yogurt paint from earlier this month and place it in zip lock bags. Seal them with as little air as possible. Your child can practice writing their letters on the bag.	☐ Write out the names of different colors. Have your child trace the words in the matching color. For little ones, use specific colors when talking about objects today, like green tree, red ball, or blue shirt.	☐ Can you make a butterfly out of shades of purple? Try making different shades of purple paint and then paint some butterflies.	☐ Primary colors  The three basic colors that make up every other color are: blue, yellow, and red. Mix the paint of two primary colors to create secondary colors!	☐ Flip through the calendar and ask your child to point out their favorite colors. Throughout the day look for those colors!	☐ An Alphabet of Colors! Starting with A, go through the alphabet and see if you and your child can name a color for every letter!



Books to Read

All the World
by Liz Garton Scanlon

Chicken Soup with Rice: A Book of Months by Maurice Sendak

The Curious Garden
by Peter Brown

Flotsam by David Wiesner

In the Small, Small Pond
by Denise Fleming

Kite Day by Will Hillenbrand

Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert

Mouse's First Fall
by Lauren Thompson

My Garden by Kevin Henkes

Snow by Uri Shulevitz

The Snowy Day
by Ezra Jack Keats

Winter is the Warmest Season by Lauren Stringer

Get Ready for Kindergarten!

- Read daily with your child, and talk together about what you are reading.
- Encourage your child to tell stories with words and pictures.
- Listen to music and encourage your child to sing songs.
- Encourage make-believe play.
- Offer opportunities for sorting, matching, counting, and comparing.
- Play word games (spoken and written).
- Talk about and illustrate the differences between different living things, and encourage questions about the natural world.

Maryland Spotlight: Kevin O'Malley

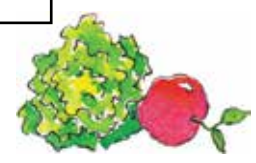
In 4th grade, Kevin O'Malley knew he wanted to illustrate children's books. A graduate of the Maryland Institute College of Art, Kevin is the beloved illustrator of over 75 books full of personality and humor, including *Straight to the Pole, Roller Coaster,* and the popular *Miss Malarkey* series. He lives in Baltimore.

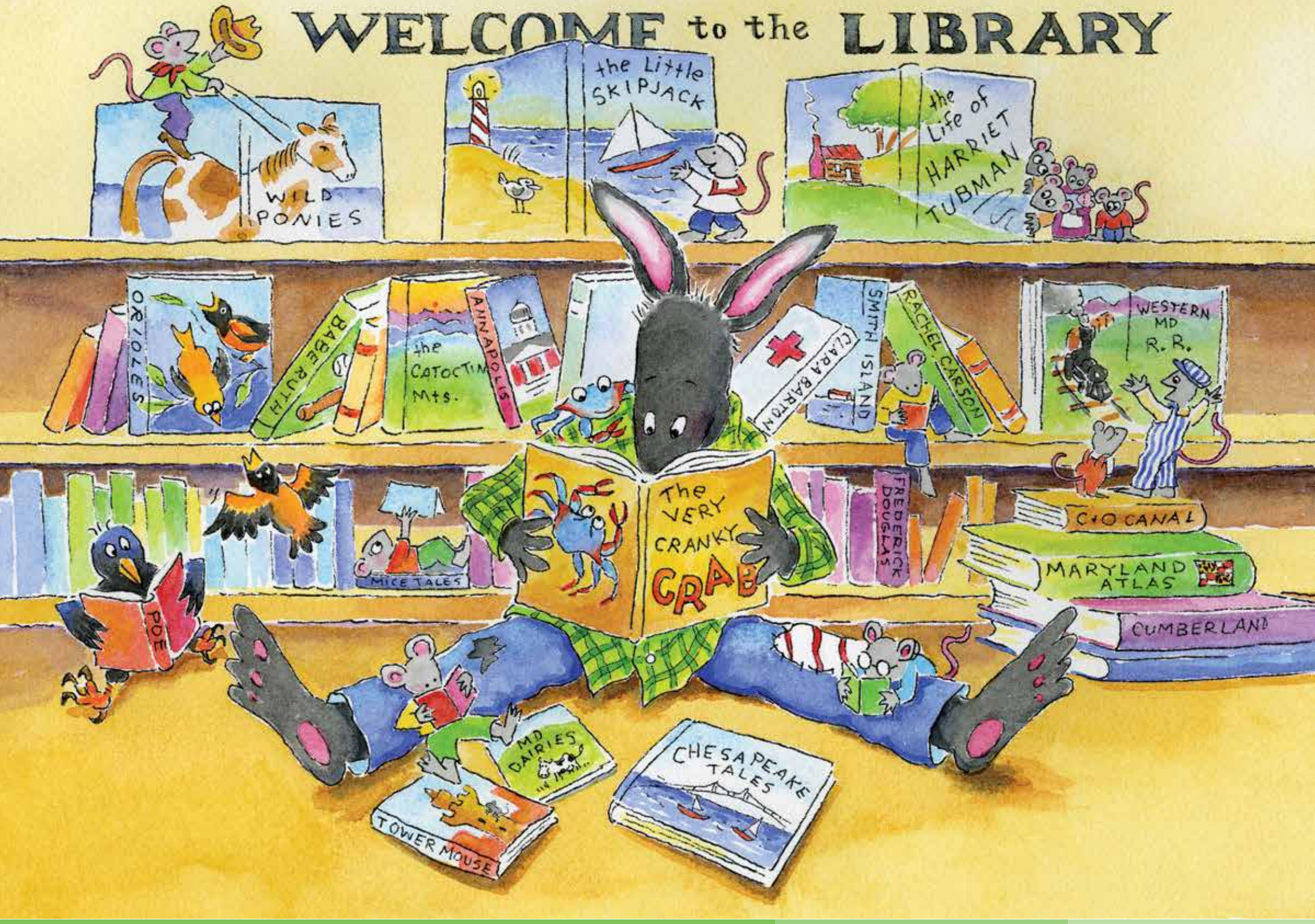
Seek & Find

A Beach Ball
Flying Boots
A Mouse Kite
Lunch for a Worm
A Sniffing Bee
A Mouse in a Pocket
Reading a Book
A Nesting Bird
A Purple Crocus

March: Seasons

Maryland Spotlight: Debbie Levy Debbie Levy is the author of more than 25 books of nonfiction, fiction, and poetry for young people, including *New York Times* bestselling *I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark,* winner of the Sydney Taylor Book Award and National Jewish Book Award. Recent books also include *This Promise of Change: One Girl's Story in the Fight for School Equality* (with Jo Ann Allen Boyce); *Becoming RBG: Ruth Bader Ginsburg's Journey to Justice, The Year of Goodbyes; The Key from Spain: Flory Jagoda and Her Music;* and *Yiddish Saves the Day!* A former lawyer and newspaper editor, Debbie lives in Maryland. "Reading is one of the great pleasures of life. You can do it nearly anywhere. You're never too young or too old for it. Reading is entertainment. It's education. If reading were food, it would be the most delicious dish that you can never get enough of."

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
☐ **Science Day!** Teach your child about the four seasons. Help them learn the names of each one and what it looks like as the seasons change.	☐  Talk about rainy weather and show your child how to use an umbrella. Practice saying and spelling the word umbrella.	☐ **Take a Walk Outside** See what you can find to count: sticks, petals of flowers that have fallen, leaves, or acorns. Can you see any signs of spring?	☐ **It's March into Literacy Month** Practice your marching to *The Ants Go Marching.*	☐ **Mother Goose Time!** *Rain, rain, go away,* *Come again another day,* *Little Johnny wants to play.* *Rain, rain, go to Spain.* *Never show your face again.* You can also use your child's name and make up hand motions!	☐ Make a picture of your family or friends and what you can do outside in the summer. Draw them, color them, or cut pictures from magazines.	☐ **Visit Your Library!**  Pick out some books about the four seasons: spring, summer, fall and winter. If possible, get *Kite Day.*
☐  Talk about daylight saving times and why we "spring ahead" an hour. Have your child help you change the clocks.	☐ **Sing a Song of Spring!** Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle *Spring, spring is coming soon,* *Grass is green and flowers bloom.* *Birds returning from the south, Bees are buzzing all about. Leaves are budding everywhere.* *Spring, spring is finally here!*	☐ **It's Youth Art Month.**  Create your own piece of art and display it in your home!	☐ Pretend it's winter and drink your favorite warm drink. Talk about what fun things you did over winter. Make paper snowflakes with scissors and folded paper!	☐ **Mother Goose Time!** *The itsy bitsy spider* *Climbed 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* *climbed up the spout again!*	☐  Pretend to be falling leaves! Talk about why leaves fall off the trees.	☐ Theodor Seuss Geisel "Dr. Seuss" was born March 2, 1904. Practice rhyming words of items you find around the house.
☐ Help your child pick out something green to wear. Spend some time talking about shamrocks and things that are connected to St. Patrick's Day. If you can, go outside and look for a four-leaf clover!	☐ **Science Day!** Talk about how some animals migrate south for the winter. Explain south by showing your child on a map or globe.	☐ **Mother Goose Time!** *It's raining,* *It's pouring.* *The old man is snoring,* *He went to bed with a cold in his head,* *And didn't get up 'til the morning.*	☐  Try to have a picnic today at a local park, in your yard, or even inside your house!	☐ What animals do you hear during spring? Go outside and close your eyes. Can you hear the birds chirp, frogs ribbit or bugs buzzing around?	☐ Spend some time talking about healthy foods. What is your favorite seasonal food?	☐ **Bath Time!** Have some fun in the bath. You can talk about all the fun things to do in the water. Make up your own songs about being in the water.
☐  Talk about the different clothes you wear each season. Do animals wear clothes? What is your favorite furry animal and why?	☐ **Mother Goose Time!** *Jack be nimble, Jack be quick, Jack jumped over the candlestick!* Use a paper towel roll, or imagine a candle stick on the ground. Have your child jump over the "candlestick." If your child is too small, lift them over the "candlestick."	☐ Talk about how the weather changes each season.	☐ **Science Day!** Soak a cotton ball with water and put a popcorn kernel in it. Place it in a paper cup and cover with plastic wrap. Secure with rubber band. Put it in a window where it will get sun. Check every day to see if the seed has sprouted. Talk about how plants grow.	☐ Say a word and have your child tell you the opposite (big, small, happy, sad.)	☐  Draw a picture of a tree as it goes through all four seasons.	☐ Draw a picture of your favorite season. Share why it is your favorite. What is your favorite activity to do in that season?
☐ Find things that are red, orange or yellow, like leaves in the fall.	☐ **Kite Day!** Make a mini kite with paper, popsicle sticks, and string. How do you think a kite works? If you have a copy, read *Kite Day.*	☐  Trace the hands of those in the home to make the outline of mittens. Color them all different colors!	☐ Practice jumping and hopping on one foot. Create a rhyme as you hop and jump.	☐ Play Simon Says. Take turns with your child.	☐ **Mother Goose Time!** *Higglety pigglety pop,* *The dog has eaten the mop!* *The pig's in a hurry,* *The cat's in a flurry,* *Higglety, pigglety, pop!*	☐ **Music in Our Schools Month.** Make up a song about going to school!



Books to Read

Book! Book! Book! by Deborah Bruss

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin Jr.

The Library by Sarah Stewart

Library Mouse by Daniel Kirk

Library Lion by Michelle Knudsen

LMNO Peas by Keith Baker

Miss Brooks Loves Books (And I Don't) by Barbara Bottner

The Neighborhood Mother Goose by Nina Crews

Rocket Writes A Story by Tad Hills

A Sick Day for Amos McGee by Philip C. Stead

We Are in a Book! (An Elephant and Piggie Book) by Mo Willems

Wild About Books! by Judy Sierra

Spanish-Language Books

Book Fiesta! by Pat Mora

Fiesta Babies by Carmen Tafolla

Gorrion Del Metro by Leyla Torres

Gracias/Thanks by Pat Mora

Just a Minute! A Trickster Tale and Counting Book by Yuyi Morales

Magic Windows/Ventanas Magicas by Carmen Lomas Garza

My Abuelita by Tony Johnston

My Name is Celia by Monica Brown

The Day of the Dead/El Día de los Muertos by Bob Barner

Sneaks the Cat

MD Summer Reading Mascot

In 1986, Baltimore County Public Library created Sneaks the Cat as its Summer Reading Club mascot. In 1999, Sneaks became the official face of summer reading to over half of the public library systems in Maryland. Today, Sneaks is the popular mascot of summer reading in public libraries throughout Maryland.



Sneaks photo courtesy of BCPL

Seek & Find

A Raven Reading
A Mouse on a Tower
A Happy Sailor
A Chugging Train
A Knee Patch
A Cowboy Hat
A Log Cabin
A Bird Saying Hello
A Statehouse Dome

April: Reading

Maryland Spotlight: Lulu Delacre Three-time Pura Belpré Award honoree, Lulu Delacre, has been writing and illustrating children's books since 1980. The *New York Times* Bestselling artist was born and raised in Puerto Rico to Argentinean parents. Her Latino heritage and her life experiences inform her work. Her 40 titles include *Arroz con Leche: Popular Songs and Rhymes from Latin America, ¡Olinguito, de la A a la Z! Descubriendo el bosque nublado; Olinguito, from A to Z!, Unveiling the Cloud Forest, Us, in Progress: Short Stories About Young Latinos, Rafi and Rosi; Music!* and *Turning Pages: My Life Story* by Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor. Lulu lives in Silver Spring, MD. "I delight in creating books that portray my own culture with authenticity in both words and pictures. And if painting Latinos true to their own beauty, fosters respect; or if sharing some of their stories builds bridges among children, I want to keep on doing it. Because for me, that is the true measure of success. ¡Viva nuestra herencia!"

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Point out the name of the author and illustrator of a book. Talk about what each person does.	**Mother Goose Time!** *Hey diddle diddle* *The cat and the fiddle,* *The cow jumped over the moon;* *The little dog laughed* *To see such sport,* *And the dish ran away with the spoon.*	Can you work on writing your own story together? You can add to it every day this month.	 Use a cookbook to make something new! Read the recipe and talk about the ingredients. Try to choose a healthy recipe.	What is April Fool's Day? Tell a story about someone who plays a trick or joke.	 Practice singing the ABC's. Talk about letters and words.	**Visit Your Library!** Celebrate National Library Week by checking out some books. If possible, get *LMNO Peas, Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, Library Mouse, Rocket Writes a Story,* and *Wild About Books.*
Talk about the different jobs people have. If you have a copy, read *LMNO Peas.* What are the different jobs the peas do? Look for the red ladybug on each page!	Read two books to your child before bed. Ask your child about their favorite part of each one.	 Have your child draw a picture of their favorite character from a book.	Find a newspaper or any item with print. See how many words your child can pick out.	**Mother Goose Time!** *All around the mulberry bush* *The monkey chased the weasel* *The monkey stopped to pull up his socks* *Pop! Goes the weasel.*	Help your child make and decorate a bookmark.	Spend time reading together. When your child sees you reading, they will mimic your behaviors.
 Have your child draw a tree and write alphabet letters hidden in the leaves. If you have a copy, read *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom.*	Walk through your house or outside. See if you can find items with the first letter of your child's name.	Have your child draw a mouse and give it a name. If you have a copy, read *Library Mouse* together.	Write out each letter of the alphabet. Cut them out in squares and take them around the house. Call out a letter for your child to find until they are all gone!	**Mother Goose Time!** *Down by the station,* *early in the morning* *See the shiny train cars* *All in a row.* *Waitin' to get hitched up* *And go on their adventure* *Chug, chug* *Toot, toot* *Off they go!*	Encourage your child to write or tell you a story. If they tell it to you, write it down so you can share it with their family and friends! If you have a copy, read *Rocket Writes a Story.*	 Put on some music and dance! Try listening to different types of music and see how your dancing changes.
Sit down as a family and read a story.	Ask your child to tell you a story. When they finish, ask questions. This is how children learn how to tell complete stories and know you are interested in what they have to say.	Find a book with few words (try author Donald Crews.) You tell one version of a story and let your child tell another.	 Draw a large outline of your child's name. Have them trace and color each letter.	**Mother Goose Time!** *Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall.* *Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.* *All the king's horses* *And all the king's men.* *Couldn't put Humpty together again.*	Ask your child about their favorite books. If you have a copy, read *Wild About Books.* There are lots of books mentioned throughout, how many have you read?	With your child, look at the pictures in a book and guess what happens. Then read the story together to see if you were right.
Go outside and look up at the clouds. Do they look like animals, shapes or something else?	 Read a story and then act it out using puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals.	Label items in your house. Practice saying the words together.	**Celebrate Earth Day!** Wear something green. Talk about the things you will do to be more earth friendly today.	Find some pictures from a magazine or pamphlet. Lay them out in a row and tell a story about them.	**Turn Off the TV Day!**  Spend some time reading today.	**Celebrate "Day of the Child/Day of the Book"** Visit your library if they are having a special program.



Books to Read

Bark, George by Jules Feiffer

Corduroy by Don Freeman

Good Night, Gorilla by Peggy Rathmann

I Want My Hat Back by Jon Klassen

The Lion & the Mouse by Jerry Pinkney

Make Way for Ducklings by Robert McCloskey

Peek-a-Moo! by Marie Torres Cimarusti

Sheep in a Jeep by Nancy E. Shaw

Those Darn Squirrels! by Adam Rubin

We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen

What Do You Do With a Tail Like This? by Robin Page

What's Your Favorite Animal? by Eric Carle

When Dinosaurs Came with Everything by Elise Broach

Finger Play: I Have a Little Turtle

I have a little turtle (cup hands)
He lives inside a box,
He swims in his puddle,
(move arms to swim)
And climbs up on his rocks.
(moved arms to climb)
He snapped at the minnow
(extend hands out and clap them shut)
He snapped at the flea
(extend hands out and clap them shut)
He snapped at the mosquito
(extend hands out and clap them shut)
And he snapped at me!
(extend hands out and clap them shut)
He caught the minnow
(cup hands together)
He caught the flea
(cup hands together)
He caught the mosquito
(cup hands together)
But he didn't catch me!
(shake head and wave finger)

Seek & Find

A Toe in Danger
A Sailboat
A Mother Otter
A Piggyback Ride
Three Dragonflies
A Curious Oyster
A Pair of Dolphins
A Heron Chick Hiding
A Very Long Bridge

May: Animals

Assateague Island is a 37-mile barrier island located off the eastern coast of the Delmarva peninsula. The northern two-thirds of the island is in Maryland; the southern third is in Virginia. The Maryland section contains the majority of Assateague Island National Seashore and Assateague State Park. In addition to its beaches and the Assateague Lighthouse, this island is best known for its herds of Assateague ponies, who have roamed the beaches, pine forest, and salt marsh since the 1600s.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
☐ Make an animal collage Cut out pictures of animals or draw some pictures and paste them on a big piece of paper.	☐ Song Day!  Sing *Old MacDonald Had a Farm.* Sing as many animals as you can think of!	☐ Practice the sounds that animals make. What's your favorite?	☐  Make up a story about an animal. Where do they live? What kinds of animal friends do they have? Draw pictures to go along with your story.	☐  Play leap frog with your child. Talk about why it is called leap frog.	☐ Our state bird is the Baltimore Oriole and the state dog is a Chesapeake Bay Retriever. Draw a picture of what you think these look like.	☐ Visit Your Library! Check out some books from this month's list. If possible, get *Sheep in a Jeep* and *The Lion & the Mouse*.
☐ Can you think of words or sounds that rhyme with the word sheep? If you have a copy, read *Sheep in a Jeep.* Practice making the sounds in the book.	☐ Help your child make a card for Mother's Day—you can include grandmothers, godmothers, or friends' mothers.	☐ Count the number of different animals you can find on packaging, clothing, or other things around you.	☐ Draw a picture of the little turtle from the finger play *I Have a Little Turtle.* Do the finger play when you're finished drawing the picture.	☐ Some picture books have no words only pictures. See if you have any books that are wordless and make up your own words! If you have a copy, read *The Lion & the Mouse.*	☐ Practice singing your ABC's today! Can you think of an animal for every letter of the alphabet?	☐ Make thumb-print animals!  Cut strips of paper and make bookmarks for your friends and family.
☐ Dance to songs with animals in the title like *Hound Dog* and *The Lion Sleeps Tonight.*	☐ Take turns pretending to be different animals and guess which animal the other person is pretending to be.	☐ Salt Dough Animals! Get out your salt dough or play dough and make some animals!	☐ Play Which is bigger? using animals.	☐ Mother Goose Time! *Hickory, dickery, dare,* *The pig flew up in the air;* *The man in brown,* *Soon brought him down,* *Hickory, dickory, dare.*	☐ Let's Play Pretend  What animal would you be and why?	☐ It's Children's Book Week! If you can't visit your library make your own book! Don't forget to draw pictures to go along with the story.
☐ Talk about what kinds of animals live in our state. Visit dnr.maryland.gov to learn more about which animals live in Maryland.	☐  Talk about the names of baby animals: kitten, puppy, lamb, colt, etc.	☐ Make a poster about insects! Don't forget to include colorful ones like ladybugs and butterflies.	☐  What animals live under water? Make your best fishy face!	☐ Talk about how eggs come from chickens. Decorate an egg with markers. Don't forget to use it before it spoils!	☐ The author of *The Wizard of Oz* was born this month. Draw a picture of the lion!	☐ Look through a magazine or book for animals found in other words like coward, crabby, or catastrophe.
☐ What are some cold weather animals? Talk about animals that live in the snow and draw your favorite!	☐  Explain to your child what it means for an animal to be endangered. Ask your child what people can do to protect endangered animals.	☐ What kind of animals live in the jungle? Can you make up a story about these animals?	☐ Do you know the sounds the jungle animals in your story from yesterday make? Take turns making the animal's sounds!	☐ Together, write a poem about your pet or what your favorite animal does all day.	☐  Take a walk and look for butterflies. Can you tell a story about what the butterflies are doing?	☐ Make up a finger play to *The Quiet Mouse.* *Once there lived a* *quiet mouse.* *He lived inside* *a quiet house.* *When all was quiet* *as could be,* *OUT POPPED HE!"*



Books to Read

Blueberries for Sal
by Robert McCloskey

Dragons Love Tacos by Adam Rubin

Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie
by Laura Numeroff

Jamberry by Bruce Degen

Lemons Are Not Red
by Laura Vaccaro Seeger

Little Pea by Amy Krouse Rosenthal

In the Night Kitchen
by Maurice Sendak

Orange Pear Apple Bear
by Emily Gravett

Stone Soup by Marcia Brown

Strega Nona by Tomie dePaola

The Watermelon Seed by Greg Pizzoli

We Had a Picnic This Sunday Past
by Jacqueline Woodson

Maryland's Best – Homegrown By Heroes

The Maryland Department of Agriculture has partnered with the Farmer Veteran Coalition and MidAtlantic Farm Credit to create the Maryland's Best – Homegrown By Heroes Program.

This program supports Maryland veteran farmers' efforts to produce local, fresh produce by branding products with the Maryland's Best – Homegrown By Heroes logo.

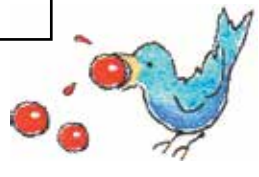
Seek & Find

Healthy Foods

- Cherries
- Lettuce
- Tomatoes
- Spinach
- Carrots
- Strawberries
- Whole Grain Bread
- Beets
- Peas
- Apple
- Celery
- Grapes
- Kale

June: Food

Maryland Spotlight: Ronald L. Smith Ronald L. Smith was born in Maine to a military family that moved frequently. After working many years in advertising, he is now a writer of children's books, winning the American Library Association's Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Talent for his book, *Hoodoo,* in 2015. As a child, Ron read a lot of books, especially fantasy and science fiction, which has inspired his lifelong love of the fantastical. "Libraries were my favorite place as a kid. There, I could travel to Middle Earth, Narnia and other fantastical worlds just by opening a book." He is the author of *Hoodoo, The Mesmerist, Black Panther: The Young Prince,* and *The Owls Have Come to Take Us Away.* He currently lives in Baltimore, MD.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
☐ Make popsicles by putting juice into ice cube trays and placing a toothpick in each cube. Freeze and eat!	☐ Talk about the Food Plate from January. Does your child remember the different foods that we should eat every day?	☐  Pick a letter and eat three foods with that letter. Talk about why they are good for you when you eat them.	☐ Make a card for a father, friend's father, or grandfather today.	☐ **Science Day!** Add food coloring to cups of water and put in celery stalks. What do you think will happen? Check back tomorrow and see! Talk about how plants need water to grow.	☐  Find a package of dried beans. Use them to practice counting. You can use them again later in the month.	☐ **Visit Your Library!** Check out some of the great books about food listed above! If possible, get *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie, The Watermelon Seed, Jamberry,* and *Little Pea*.
☐ Make up a story about what you think would happen if you gave a mouse a cookie. If you have a copy, read *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie.*	☐ Use animal crackers to host an animal cracker circus!	☐ Talk about foods and flavors enjoyed in Maryland. Do you know how to make crab cakes or a Smith Island cake? Have you tried Old Bay seasoning? Explore these tastes.	☐ Read one of the books about food from the library. When you are done, have your child retell you the story.	☐ **Song Day!** *Pizza, pizza hot.* *Pizza, pizza cold.* *Pizza, pizza in the box,* *nine days old.* *Some like it hot. Some like it cold.* *Some like it in the box, nine days old!*	☐ When you go to the store, spend time pointing out the color of the foods and their names.	☐  Go outdoors and enjoy a picnic. Look at the shapes of your food. How many square items do you have, how many circle items?
☐ Talk about yesterday's picnic. Describe some of the foods you ate. What different colors did you eat and what shapes?	☐  Name as many fruits and vegetables as you can and talk about what color they are.	☐ Cows are wonderful! Enjoy a glass of milk and draw a picture of a cow family.	☐  Go outside and make mud pies. Count them forwards and backwards but don't eat them!	☐ Eat an apple or watermelon and count the seeds. If you have a copy, read *The Watermelon Seed.*	☐ **Science Day!** Show your child how to tell the temperature outside by reading a thermometer. Talk about hot and cold and why some foods need to stay cold.	☐ Try and visit a local farm or farmer's market today to see what foods are growing locally. Have you eaten any of them before?
☐ Bake something together! If you can't bake, pretend! Practice measuring ingredients.	☐ Make a food alphabet book. Fold over paper, and either draw or cut out pictures of food items.	☐  How many different types of berries can you think of? How many have you eaten before? If you have a copy, read *Jamberry.*	☐ **Science Day!** Talk about taste buds. Find items around your house that taste different, such as salty, sweet, and sour. What is your favorite?	☐  Play with your peas! How many peas fit on a spoon? Put them on, count, then eat them! Yum! If you have a copy, read *Little Pea.*	☐ **Song Day!** *On top of spaghetti all covered with cheese.* *I lost my poor meatball* *When somebody sneezed.* *It rolled off the table, and onto the floor.* *And then my poor meatball, rolled out of the door.*	☐ Spend some time making a meal together. Talk about what kinds of food you are making and let your child help.
☐  Eat a rainbow! Try to eat something red, orange, yellow, green, and blue today!	☐ Go outside and march around to *The Farmer in the Dell.* Make up the rest of the lyrics. *The farmer in the dell* *The farmer in the dell* *Hi-ho, the derry-o* *The farmer in the dell.*	☐ Find a can or box in the house and use it to practice reviewing the alphabet.	☐ Make a paper plate pizza. Use a paper plate as the pizza and you can draw or cut out shapes to "make" the toppings.	☐ Make music with water! Fill glasses with different amounts of water. Take a fork or spoon and tap the glass. Listen to the different sounds each glass makes!	☐  Play with your food! You can make apple smiles by cutting apple quarters into halves, or try making ants on a log.	☐ **Mother Goose Time!** *Mr. East gave a feast;* *Mr. North laid the cloth;* *Mr. West did his best;* *Mr. South burned his mouth, eating a cold potato.*

Books to Read

Angelina Ballerina by Katharine Holabird

Bats in the Band by Brian Lies

Ben's Trumpet by Rachel Isadora

Berlioz the Bear by Jan Brett

Flora and the Flamingo by Molly Idle

Giraffes Can't Dance by Giles Andreae

Meet the Orchestra by Ann Hayes

Olivia Forms a Band by Ian Falconer

Song and Dance Man by Karen Ackerman

Take Me Out of the Bathtub and Other Silly Dilly Songs by Alan Katz

Tito Puente, Mambo King by Monica Brown

The Wheels on the Bus by Paul O. Zelinsky

When Marian Sang: The True Recital of Marian Anderson by Pam Muñoz Ryan

Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin by Lloyd Moss

Music for All Ages

Many local libraries have children's music that you can check out and bring home. Make sure to ask a librarian about what kind of music would be perfect for you and your child. A recommended list of children's music is also included in the back of this calendar.

Seek & Find

Insects & Instruments

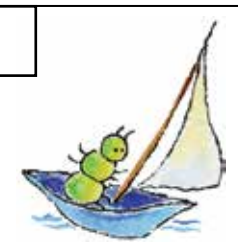
Praying Mantis
Cicada
Grasshopper
Cricket
Beetle
Caterpillar
Butterfly
Dragonfly
Ladybug
Ant
Bumble Bee

Conga Drum
Maracas
Violin
Flute
Banjo
Snare Drum
Clarinet
Tambourine
Tuba
Trumpet
Kazoo

July: Music

"Music is as inherently motor as it is auditory. Many of us 'conduct' while listening to classical music, hum along with show tunes, or dance to popular music."

–Dr. Mark Jude Tramo, musician and scientist

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Go outside together and jump rope or do some jumping jacks. Sing songs as you jump.	**Mother Goose Time!** *Little Boy Blue, come blow your horn,* *The sheep's in the meadow,* *The cow's in the corn.* *Where is that boy who looks after the sheep?* *Under the haystack fast asleep.*	Sing a patriotic song such as *This Land is Your Land* or *The Star Spangled Banner.*	 Talk about musical theater. If you have a favorite musical, sing or play some of the music for your child.	**Song Day!** Sing and do the motions to *Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes.*	Count out ten dry beans or pieces of uncooked pasta. Put them between two paper plates and staple the plates together to make a rattle.	**Visit Your Library!** Check out some books about music and dance. If possible get *Flora and the Flamingo* and *Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin* from this month's booklist.
Pretend to play instruments like the piano, violin, guitar or drum.	 Put on some music and find the rhythm. Practice clapping to the beat.	Play some quiet music and stretch along to it. Count quietly as you stretch together.	Create a dance to your favorite song. Talk about what makes that song your favorite.	 Sing a lullaby together at bedtime.	Play some classical music and dance to it. If you have a copy, read *Flora and the Flamingo* and try to copy the flamingo like Flora tries.	 Talk about how to sing in "a round." Try singing in a round to *Row, Row, Row Your Boat.*
Play musical chairs. Change the rules to fit how many players you have.	Make music with your body by snapping, clapping and stomping.	**Song Day!** Sing and do the motions to *The Wheels on the Bus.*	**Science Day!** Have your child bang on different size pots and pans with a wooden spoon. Talk about the variety of sounds high and low that he makes.	Sing a song to your child in the morning to wake them up.	**Song Day!** Sing and do the motions to *Five Little Speckled Frogs.*	Read a book and stop halfway through. Have your child guess what will happen before you read the rest of the book.
Talk a walk outside and listen to nature's music. Try to identify who or what is making each sound.	 Have your child make up their own song and help them write down the lyrics.	**Song Day!** Sing and act out *The Noble Duke of York.*	Get out your favorite book and point out the parts of the book using this song: *Front of the book, back of the book! Front of the book, back of the book!* *Title page! Title Page!* *Author and illustrator, author and illustrator!* *Spine of the book!* *Spine of the book!*	**Mother Goose Time!** *Sing, sing, what shall I sing?* *The cat's run away with the pudding string!* *Do, do, what shall I do?* *The cat's run away with the pudding too!*	 What in your house can become a musical instrument? Look around and make some music.	**Song Day!** Sing and dance to *The Hokey Pokey.*
 Put on some music while you bake something together.	Read a book together and point out any unusual words. Talk about what they mean.	Play some music and dance! Find a partner and Square Dance if you know how. The Square Dance is Maryland's state dance.	**Song Day!** Sing *Take Me Out to the Ballgame* together.	 Talk about what sounds different animals make. Draw a picture of animals that sing.	**Bath Time!** Sing and do the motions to *Where is Thumbkin?* Have the finger family run away under the water.	Make rhythm sticks by filling paper towel rolls or toilet paper rolls with dry beans or uncooked pasta. Tape the ends closed and shake.



Books to Read

The Artist Who Painted a Blue Horse
by Eric Carle

Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type
by Doreen Cronin

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!
by Mo Willems

Extra Yarn by Mac Barnett

Harold and the Purple Crayon
by Crockett Johnson

It Looked Like Spilt Milk
by Charles G. Shaw

Journey by Aaron Becker

Pete's a Pizza by William Steig

Press Here by Herve Tullet

Quinnie Blue by Dinah Johnson

Stuck by Oliver Jeffers

Tacky the Penguin by Helen Lester

What If… by Samantha Berger

Where the Wild Things Are
by Maurice Sendak

"We cannot create
what we can't imagine."

–Lucille Clifton, 1936-2010

Seek & Find

Deep Sea Adventure

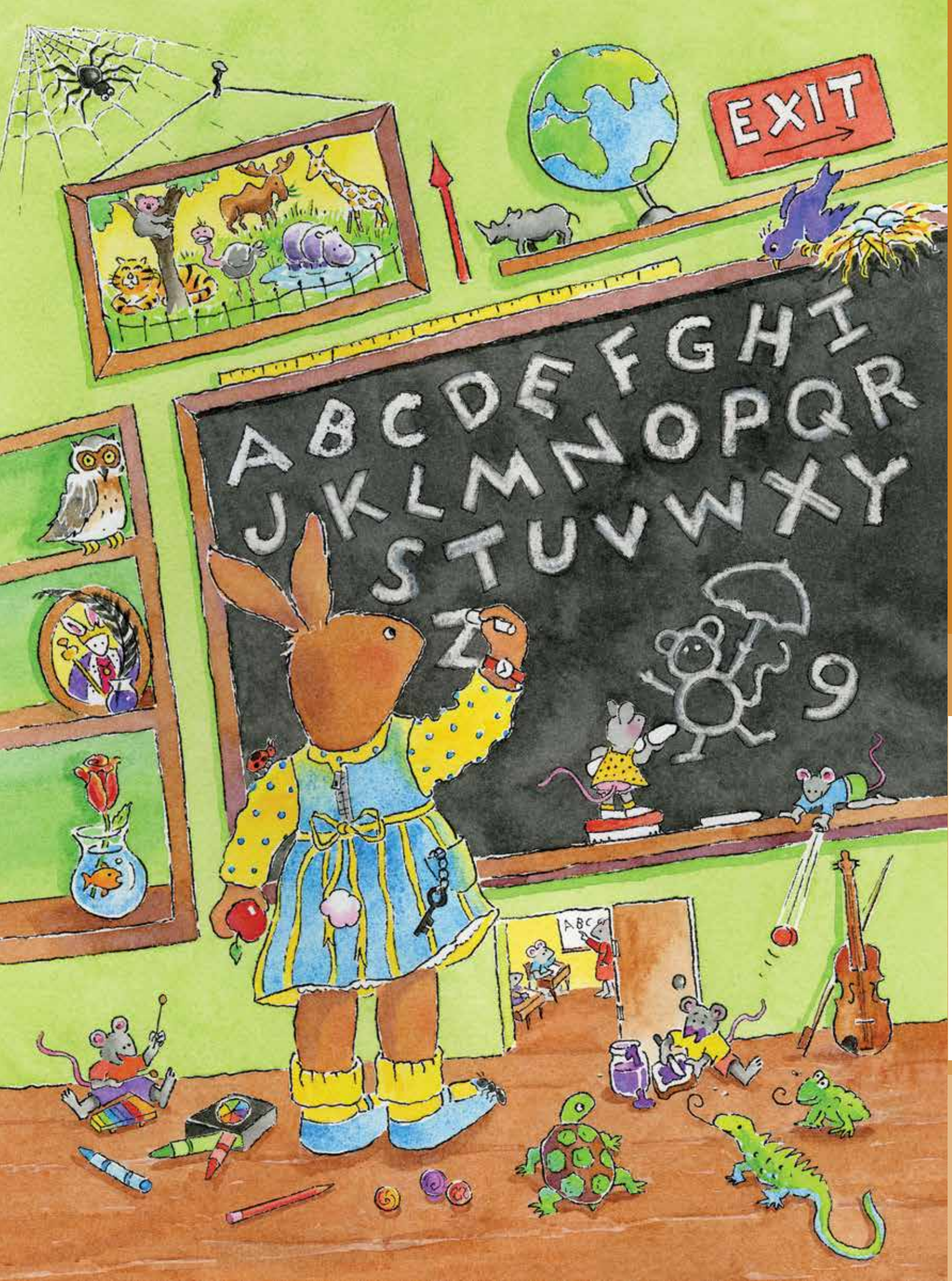
A Spouting Whale
A Spyglass and a Seagull
Feeding a Big Fish
Juvenile Jellyfish
Riding a Seahorse
X Marks the Spot
Sleeping Baby Octopus
A Pirate Hook
Storytime for Starfish
Flying Ray
Circling Sharks
The Planet Saturn

August: Imagination

"Once you learn to read you are forever free." –*Frederick Douglass, 1818-1895*

Born in Maryland in Talbot County, Frederick Douglass escaped a life of slavery in 1838 and spent the rest of his life as an abolitionist, author, and public speaker on human rights. At an early age he realized the importance of reading as a way toward freedom.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
☐ Talk about what the word imagination means. Point out and say aloud each letter in the word "imagination."	☐ Make a fort or castle with blankets and play in it together.	☐  Make up a recipe together and cook something fun. Try to use healthy ingredients.	☐ Have your child pretend to be a bird such as a sandpiper and fly around the house.	☐ Make a hat out of things in your house. Decide where or for what event your child would wear their hat.	☐ Song Day!  Have a real or imaginary tea party with your child and sing *I'm a Little Teapot.*	☐ Visit Your Library! Check out some books about imagination. If possible get *Harold and the Purple Crayon, It Looked Like Spilt Milk* and *Pete's a Pizza* from this month's booklist.
☐  Go outside, lie on the ground, and look up at the clouds. What shapes do you see? If you have a copy, read *It Looked Like Spilt Milk.*	☐ Have your child imagine what it might be like to live on the moon. Have them draw a picture of what they imagine.	☐ Ask your child what they would like to be when they grow up and have them draw a self-portrait of themselves as an adult.	☐  Use a broom or stick as a pretend horse. Ride your horse around the house, driveway or yard.	☐ Make up a song about the month of August and sing it together.	☐ Bath Time! Bring some objects with you into the bath. Use them to tell a story about their life in the water.	☐ Pretend to make a pizza. If you have a copy, read *Pete's a Pizza* or any book about pizza. Act out the book after you read it together.
☐ Read a book and ask your child to imagine what would have happened if the characters in the story made different choices.	☐ Science Day! Pretend that you are seeds planted in the ground and then grow into a flower. Talk about what seeds need to grow.	☐  Imagine something amazing and then draw it with a purple crayon. If you have a copy, read *Harold and the Purple Crayon.*	☐ Paint on the sidewalk or driveway with water and watch it evaporate.	☐ Make bubble solution (recipe in the back). Sit outside and blow bubbles. Look for shapes in the bubbles that float by.	☐ Set up a pretend kitchen and cook something with your child.	☐ Make a guessing box from an empty tissue box. Pick out items together to put in the box. Let your child put his hand into the box and without looking, guess what each object is.
☐  Play dress up using old clothes. Put on a little show in costume.	☐ Use your imagination to go on a Maryland trip. Where would you go and what would you see? Use the state map in the back of this calendar and plan your pretend trip.	☐ Read a book together. Have your child imagine what happens after the book ends.	☐ Use dolls, action figures, or stuffed animals to act out a story.	☐ Mother Goose Time! *Hickory, Dickory, Dock!* *The mouse ran up the clock.* *The clock struck one.* *The mouse ran down.* *Hickory,* *Dickory,* *Dock.*	☐ Song Day! Sing and do the motions to *London Bridge.* *London Bridge is falling down! falling down! falling down!* *London Bridge is falling down! My fair lady!*	☐  Set up a pretend grocery store and let your child go shopping. Talk about choosing healthy foods.
☐ Cover the floor with paper and have everyone make one large picture together.	☐ Imagine that a laundry basket or box is a car for your child. Make car noises and drive them around the house.	☐  Read a fairytale together. If you don't have any fairytale books, make up your own story about a character from a fairytale.	☐ Mother Goose Time! *Star light, star bright, the first star I see tonight;* *I wish I may, I wish I might,* *Have the wish I wish tonight.*	☐  Ask your child what kind of pet they would have if they could have any animal in the world.	☐ Dough Animals! Make salt dough or play dough and have your child use it to mold an imaginary animal. Have them describe what their animal is and what it is called.	☐ I Spy Outside Take a walk outside and play I Spy.



Books to Read

Alphabatics by Suse MacDonald

Alphabet City by Stephen T. Johnson

AlphaOops! The Day Z Went First by Alethea Kontis

Amelia Bedelia by Peggy Parish

Curious George Learns the Alphabet by H. A. Rey

Eating the Alphabet by Lois Ehlert

The Graphic Alphabet by David Pelletier

The Hidden Alphabet by Laura Vaccaro Seeger

I Stink! By Kate McMullan

Jambo Means Hello: Swahili Alphabet Book by Muriel Feelings

Old Black Fly by Jim Aylesworth

Shiver Me Letters: A Pirate ABC by June Sobel

The Sleepy Little Alphabet by Judy Sierra

American Sign Language Alphabet



Seek & Find

Alphabet

Find all the things that begin with each letter of the alphabet. There is a list of 100 words on the last page of the calendar.

September: Letters

Maryland Spotlight: Phyllis Reynolds Naylor Phyllis Reynolds Naylor has written more than 135 books, including the Newbery Award-winning *Shiloh* and its sequels; the *Alice* series; *Roxie and the Hooligans*, and *Roxie and the Hooligans at Buzzard's Roost.* She states the happiest part of her childhood "was listening to my parents read to us aloud, long after we learned to read ourselves. A half hour or so was reserved each evening for storytime, and I still remember the pleasure of listening to my mother read from *The Wind in the Willows* and the way Dad could imitate all the characters in *Huckleberry Finn*. I absolutely love making up stories. The best part about writing is the moment a character comes alive on paper or when a place that existed only in my head becomes real." Phyllis lives in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
☐ Make an ABC Book Make a 26 page booklet from blank paper. Together, write each letter on the top of each page. Fill in your book with drawings or magazine pictures all month long.	☐ A is for Apple  Eat an apple and count the seeds.	☐ B is for Bumblebee With your hand in a fist say: Here is a beehive, but where are the bees? Hiding inside where nobody sees. Watch and you'll see them come out of their hive 1,2,3,4,5… BZZZ!	☐ C is for Cup Make a tower using paper or plastic cups. How high can you go?	☐ D is for Dig  Fill a small container with dirt or rice and hide objects in it. Have your child dig for treasure!	☐ E is for Exercise Touch your toes, do some jumping jacks and, stretch your arms up high. Feel your body move and breathe!	☐ Visit Your Library!  Check out some alphabet books. If possible get *Eating the Alphabet* and *Shiver Me Letters* from this month's booklist.
☐ Look for Letters Read one of your library books. Help your child find the letters of their name in the words of the book.	☐ F is for Fruit Talk about your favorite fruits and then make some fruit salad together.	☐ G is for Grandparents Tell your child a story about their grandparent or have a grandparent tell a story themselves.	☐ H is for Honey  September is National Honey Month. Taste some honey and talk about where it comes from.	☐ I is for Ice Melt ice cubes and talk about temperature. Have your child list things that are hot and things that are cold.	☐ J is for Jack and Jill *Jack and Jill went up the hill* *to fetch a pail of water;* *Jack fell down and broke his crown, and Jill came tumbling after.*	☐ Letters Ahoy! Talk like a pirate day! If you have a copy, read *Shiver Me Letters: A Pirate ABC.*
☐ Dough Spelling!  Make salt dough or play dough and use it to spell out your name.	☐ K is for King Old King Cole was a merry old soul And a merry old soul was he; He called for his pipe, And he called for his bowl And he called for his fiddlers three.	☐ L is for Leaves  Take a walk outside and look for leaves. Try to find ten different kinds of leaves.	☐ M is for Music Sing the Alphabet Song together. Try singing it while doing the American Sign Language letters (above.)	☐ N is for Noodle Help your child spell their name or make the alphabet using spaghetti noodles.	☐ O is for Origami  Origami is the Japanese art of making objects by folding paper. Help your child fold a paper airplane.	☐ Eat Your Letters! Have a healthy snack of fruit or vegetables. If you have a copy, read *Eating the Alphabet* for inspiration!
☐ I Spy Letters Point out the letters you recognize in signs, labels and billboards throughout the day.	☐ P is for Pat-a-cake *Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake,* *baker's man,* *Bake me a cake* *as fast as you can.* *Roll it, and prick it,* *and mark it with a "B"* *And put it in the oven* *for baby and me!*	☐ Q is for Quilt Draw a family quilt on paper and have each family member decorate one or more squares.	☐ R is for Red Look for all the red objects you see throughout the day.	☐ S is for Sign Language Explain the idea of sign language. Teach them to say I love you.	☐ T is for Treasure Hunt Find objects around the house that start with each letter of the alphabet.	☐ Sign Your Name Using the guide above, practice spelling out your child's name in American Sign Language.
☐ Tell the Story Choose your favorite alphabet book to look at together. Have your child tell the story by looking at the illustrations.	☐ U is for Umbrella Slap your legs in tune to: *Rain is falling down SPLASH!* *Rain is falling down SPLASH!* *Pitter patter, pitter patter,* *Rain is falling* *down* *SPLASH!*	☐ V is for Vegetables  Name a vegetable that starts with each letter of the alphabet.	☐ W is for Wash Make paint with shaving cream mixed with a few drops of food coloring. Paint with it in the tub during bath time.	☐ X is for X-marks-the-spot Find your country, state and city on a map. Draw a map of your neighborhood.	☐ Y is for Yellow Point out all the yellow objects you see throughout the day.	☐ Z is for Zoo  Write a list of animals you may see at the zoo. Draw or paint a picture of your favorite zoo animal.



Books to Read

Big Fat Hen by Keith Baker

Chicka Chicka 1,2,3 by Bill Martin Jr.

Count Down to Fall by Fran Hawk

Fiesta! by Ginger Foglesong Guy

Fish Eyes by Lois Ehlert

How Do Dinosaurs Count to Ten? by Jane Yolen

How Much is a Million? by David M. Schwartz

Mouse Count by Ellen Stoll Walsh

One Hundred Hungry Ants by Elinor J. Pinczes

Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons by Eric Litwin

Ten Black Dots by Donald Crews

Ten Little Fish by Audrey Wood

Ten, Nine, Eight by Molly Bang

The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

Maryland Spotlight: Laura Gehl

Laura is a former science teacher who loves visiting schools, providing interactive, prop-filled presentations. She is the author of many award-winning books, including *One Big Pair of Underwear, Hare and Tortoise Race Across Israel, And Then Another Sheep Turned Up, Koala Challah,* the *Peep and Egg* series, *My Pillow Keeps Moving, I Got a Chicken for my Birthday,* and *Delivery Bear.* Upcoming releases include *Except When They Don't, Dibs!, Juniper Kai: Super Spy,* and the *Baby Scientist* series. Laura lives in Maryland with her husband, four children, and a large stash of dark chocolate.

Seek & Find

The mice are playing hide and seek.

How many mice can you find?

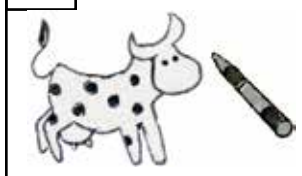
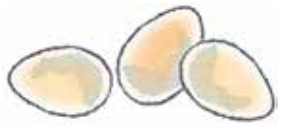
Count them.

Don't miss any!

October: Numbers

"Poetry is a matter of life, not just a matter of language." —*Lucille Clifton, 1936-2010*

Born in 1936, award-winning author, Lucille Clifton, was Maryland's poet laureate from 1974-1985. In her work, she focused on the African-American experience and family life. She also wrote many children's books, designed to help children better understand their world. Her most famous character was Everett Anderson, an African-American boy living in a big city. Clifton wrote eight Everett Anderson titles, including *Everett Anderson's Goodbye* (1984), which won the Coretta Scott King Award. Clifton believed that "Poetry is a matter of life, not just a matter of language." She died in 2010.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Help your child write out the numbers 1 to 10. Use this sheet throughout the month to practice counting.	How tall are you? Measure each family member today and again at the end of the month.	**It's Popcorn Poppin' Month!**  Pop some popcorn and count how many pieces you eat.	**Song Day!** *One potato, two potato,* *Three potato, four,* *Five potato, six potato,* *Seven potato, more!*	 Take a walk outside and look for acorns. Count how many you find.	Help your child count their fingers and toes. Count forwards and backwards.	**Visit Your Library!** Check out some number books. If possible, read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *Ten Black Dots* from this month's booklist.
 Draw a picture with ten black dots. If you have a copy, read *Ten Black Dots.*	Count the pairs of socks your child has. Talk about other things that come in pairs.	Count by fives and tens as high as your child can go.	Show your child a clock and count the hours. Explain the number of hours in a day.	**Science Day!** Help your child sort coins into groups by size. Talk about size and which is smaller and which is bigger.	**Number 10 Day!** Look for the number ten today. If you have a copy, read *Ten Black Dots*.	Have everyone in your family vote on their favorite book. Count up the votes and see which book is the winner.
It's Fire Prevention Month! Show your child your household smoke detector, or install a new one. Many fire departments offer free smoke detectors so conatct your local department to check. Talk about fire safety.	 Explain what a dozen means. Count the number of eggs in a carton.	**Mother Goose Time!** *1, 2 buckle my shoe,* *3, 4 open the door,* *5, 6 pick up sticks,* *7, 8 lay them straight,* *9, 10 a big, fat hen!*	Count to ten in Spanish: 1. uno 2. dos 3. tres 4. cuatro 5. cinco 6. seis 7. siete 8. ocho 9. nueve 10. diez	 Exercise with your child by hopping or doing jumping jacks. Count as you go.	Draw a picture of family members who live with you. Count how many people.	 Have your child tell you a story about 1 pumpkin, 2 bats and 3 owls.
 Choose a new recipe to make together. Point out the different measurements in the recipe.	Show your child what time it is during the morning, afternoon, evening and bedtime. Talk about some of the routines you have at those times of day.	 With your child count how many books your child owns. Have him choose a few of his favorites to read aloud.	Talk about how much a penny, nickel, dime and quarter are worth and how many of each are in a dollar.	There are 24 counties in Maryland. Count from 1 to 24 together.	**Song Day!** *One two, buckle my shoe!* *Three four, knock at the door!* *Five six, picking up sticks!* *Seven eight, don't be late!* *Nine ten, let's say it again!*	**Dough Counting!** Make salt dough or play dough and use it to mold the numbers 1 to 10.
Bath Time! Bring a set of measuring cups or spoons into the bathtub. Practice counting and measuring.	**I Spy Numbers** Point out the numbers you recognize in signs, labels and billboards throughout the day.	Point out your child's birthday and those of family members on a calendar. Talk about everyone's age.	**Song Day!** Sing songs with numbers such as *Five Little Pumpkins* or *Five Little Ducks.*	 Count the number of seeds in a pumpkin, apple or other fruit.	Read a picture book and then count the pages together.	Did you grow taller? Measure each family member again and see if anyone grew.



Books to Read

Abuela by Arthur Dorros

Bee-bim Bop! by Linda Sue Park

Blackout by John Rocco

Does a Kangaroo Have a Mother, Too? by Eric Carle

Grandpa Green by Lane Smith

Guess How Much I Love You by Sam McBratney

The Hello, Goodbye Window by Norton Juster

Llama Llama Misses Mama by Anna Dewdney

Mr. Rabbit and the Lovely Present by Charlotte Zolotow

The Napping House by Audrey Wood

Owl Moon by Jane Yolen

Peter's Chair by Ezra Jack Keats

The Relatives Came by Cynthia Rylant

What Mommies Do Best/What Daddies Do Best by Laura Numeroff

Native American Heritage Month

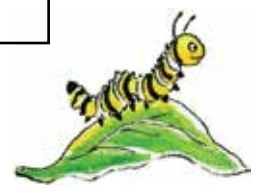
Maryland was home to several different American Indian tribes when English settlers arrived in the 17th century. The Algonquian-speaking Indians of the Chesapeake Bay and coastal areas including the Lenape, Nanticoke, Piscataway, Assateagues, Powhatan, and Pocomoke Indians. There were also Iroquois-speaking groups such as the Susquehannocks, living in the Piedmont and in the mountains. These tribes were part of the Northeast Woodlands group, living in wigwams or longhouses. They were "hunter-gatherers": farmers, fishers, and trappers, living off of the Chesapeake Bay and surrounding forests and rivers. Today, Maryland recognizes two tribes: the Piscataway Indian Nation and the Piscataway Conoy Tribe.

Seek & Find

A Mouse Doll
Toasting Marshmallows
A Ladybug House
Almost 8 O'Clock!
A Falling Tower
Grandpa's Spectacles
A Bunch of Bananas
Popcorn on the Floor
A Happy Bird Dreaming
Moons and Stars

November: Family

Maryland Public Libraries: Early Literacy & Learning Spaces Maryland public libraries throughout the state provide interactive, fun learning spaces for children and families to help foster early literacy skills, family engagement, and school readiness. These areas are specifically designed for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, birth to 5, and encourage interactive play and learning with parents, family members, or caregivers through books, learning toys, and spaces that encourage imagination, language development, motor, STEM, and social skills.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
☐ Does your family have favorite foods? Spend time cooking a meal together.	☐  Count how many brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins and pets you have in your family.	☐ Put on some of your favorite music and dance with your family.	☐  Draw pictures of all your family members, save for tomorrow.	☐ Cut out the pictures that were drawn yesterday and make them into puppets by taping them to popsicle sticks or straws. Put on a puppet show about your family.	☐ Talk about the importance of grandparents or aunts and uncles in your family. Take a special family member to your library this month to play and read in the early literacy and learning area.	☐ **Visit Your Library!** Check out some books about families. If possible get *Blackout* and *What Mommies Do Best/What Daddies Do Best* from this month's booklist.
☐ Talk about what kinds of activities you would do if the lights went out. If you have a copy, read *Blackout.*	☐ **Mother Goose Time!** *Chook, Chook, Chook, Chook, Chook, Good morning, Mrs. Hen.* *How many chickens have you got? Madam I've got ten.* *Four of them yellow, and four of them are brown,* *and two of them are speckled red, the nicest in town.*	☐ Have your child name one thing that makes each member of your family special.	☐ **Talk about Veteran's Day** Explain what the word veteran means. Do you have any veterans in your family?	☐ Write a poem about a family of turkeys.	☐  Talk about what each member of your family does best. If you have a copy, read *What Mommies Do Best/What Daddies Do Best.*	☐ Have a family story time. Have each person choose a favorite book to read.
☐ Play a game as a family. If you don't have a game, make one up!	☐ Have your child set the table for dinner and tell you who sits at which seat. Help them write place cards with each person's name.	☐  Draw a picture of an animal home. Talk about the different kinds of homes that animals live in.	☐ **Song Day!** *You are my sunshine.* *My only sunshine.* *You make me happy when skies are gray.* *You never know dear how much I love you.* *Please don't take my sunshine away.*	☐ **Science Day!** 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.	☐ **Song Day!** *Over the river and through the woods,* *To grandmother's house we go;* *The horse knows the way to carry the sleigh,* *Through (the) white and drifted snow!* *Over the river and through the woods,* *Oh, how the wind does blow!* *It stings the toes and bites the nose,* *As over the ground we go.*	☐ Trace your hand to make a turkey. Draw a whole family of turkeys for Thanksgiving.
☐ Talk about some of your family traditions or create a new one.	☐ Have your child tell you a story about a special day they spent with another family member.	☐ **Dough Family!** Make salt dough or play dough and use it to sculpt models of your family members.	☐  Talk about the history and meaning of Thanksgiving.	☐ Have each family member share one thing for which they are thankful.	☐ Have each family member draw a self-portrait.	☐  Help your child write and send a letter to a family member.
☐  Take a walk outside as a family.	☐ **Bath Time!** During bath time act out: *Rub-a-dub-dub, three men in a tub, And who do you think they were?* *The butcher, the baker, the candlestick-maker,* *They all sailed out to sea,* *'twas enough to make a man stare.*	☐ Have your child make up a story about their favorite animal family.	☐ **November is National Adoption Month.** Talk about how families are similar and different.	☐  Talk about some of the animals in your neighborhood and whether they are part of a family.	☐ **Mother Goose Time!** *Bye, baby Bunting,* *Father's gone a-hunting,* *Mother's gone a-milking,* *Sister's gone a-silking,* *Brother's gone* *to buy a skin* *to wrap the* *baby Bunting in.*	☐ Have an older adult or grandparent tell your child a story from their childhood.



Books to Read

Bear Feels Scared by Karma Wilson

Boo's Dinosaur by Betsy Byars

Frog and Toad are Friends by Arnold Lobel

George and Martha by James Marshall

Henry and Mudge: The First Book by Cynthia Rylant

How Do You Hug a Porcupine? By Laurie Isop

How Rocket Learned to Read by Tad Hills

I Will Surprise My Friend! (An Elephant and Piggie Book) by Mo Willems

Making Friends by Fred Rogers

Mr. Gumpy's Outing by John Burningham

My Friend Rabbit by Eric Rohmann

One Cool Friend by Toni Buzzeo

A Weekend with Wendell by Kevin Henkes

Yo! Yes? by Chris Raschka

Everyday Fun to Get Your Child Ready to Read

Many of the daily activities included in this calendar can be adapted for you and your baby. The point of the activities is to have fun learning – feel free to change them to better suit you and your little one. Keep in mind that learning to read begins now – way before your child ever starts school.

Five of the best ways to help your child get ready to read are by doing the following together everyday:

- **Talking**
- **Singing**
- **Reading**
- **Writing**
- **Playing**

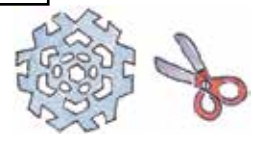
Seek & Find

Snowy Day

A Mitten on a Tail
A Snow Bee
A Hat for an Ear
A Snow Angel
Hot Chocolate Hot Tub
Marshmallow Snowman
Mouse Whiskers
A Snow Bird
Boot Buttons
Bunny Tracks
Snowballs
Bird Tracks

December: Friends

Maryland Spotlight: Mary Amato Mary Amato is an award winning children's and YA book author, poet, playwright, and songwriter. Her books have been translated into foreign languages, optioned for television, produced onstage, and have won the children's choice awards in several states. She teaches popular workshops on writing and the creative process around the country. Among her most recent titles are: *News from Me, Lucy McGee; Open Mic Night at Westminster Cemetery, Our Teacher is a Vampire and Other (Not) True Stories, The Chicken of the Family, Please Write in This Book,* and her *Riot Brothers* series. Mary gives voice to the funny, sad, messy, and wondrous stories of life, especially the stories of children and young adults. Her mission is that "each book has humor, heart and grit. I believe that stories lift us, heal us, and connect us." She lives in Hyattsville, MD.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Talk about why friends are important.	Make up a rhyme about friends and clap out the beat.	The word friend begins with the letter F. What other things begin with F?	Write a poem about a chubby little snowman.	 Discuss ways your child can be a good friend to someone.	**Song Day!** Insert a friend's name when singing *BINGO:* *I have a very special friend* *And can you guess her name-o?* *J-U-L-I-E J-U-L-I-E* *J-U-L-I-E* *And Julie is her name-o!*	**Visit Your Library!** Check out some books about friends. If possible get *How Rocket Learned to Read* and *One Cool Friend* from this month's booklist.
Ask your child what animal they would like to bring home from the zoo if they were allowed. If you have a copy, read *One Cool Friend.*	Make up a story about friends by taking turns and each telling a part.	**Science Day!**  Pretend to be snowflakes, snowballs and snowmen, and then melt. Talk about how temperature affects snow.	Have your child learn about a friend by asking them questions about their family, pets, likes and dislikes.	**Song Day!** Take turns being the leader and march in a circle singing: *Follow the leader* *wherever he goes* *What he does next, nobody knows!*	Talk about how friends can help each other. If you have a copy, read *How Rocket Learned to Read.*	 Invite one of your child's friends over to play or meet them and their parents at a park or the library.
Tell a story about a special meal you shared with friends, then make a meal together.	Talk about what qualities a good friend should have.	Read one of your library books together. Point out the author's and illustrator's names.	Talk about winter in Maryland and how it compares to winter in other places.	**Dough Friends!** Make salt dough or play dough and use it to shape the letters in the name of a friend.	 Make a holiday or winter card for a friend.	**Song Day!** *Will you be a friend of mine, A friend of mine, a friend of mine?* *Will you be a friend of mine and* (insert an action) *around with me?* (Name) *is a friend of mine, friend of mine, friend of mine.* (Name) *is a friend of mine who* (insert an action) *around with me!*
 Help your child practice zipping or buttoning their coat. Take a walk outside together.	**Mother Goose Time!** *Three little kittens* *they lost their mittens,* *And they began to cry,* *Oh, Mother Dear,* *we sadly fear* *Our mittens we have lost.* *What! Lost your mittens, you naughty kittens!* *Then you shall have no pie.*	Draw pictures of your friends and cut them out. Make them into puppets by taping them to popsicle sticks or straws. Put on a puppet show about your friends.	 Help your child cut out paper snowflakes. Tape them to the window or string them together to make a garland to hang.	**Song Day!** *The more we get together, together, together* *The more we get together,* *the happier we'll be.* *For your friends are my friends,* *And my friends are* *your friends,* *The more we get together,* *the happier we'll be.*	Are you having a special family celebration? Talk about your family's celebrations and traditions.	Spend time reading books about friends, sharing or holidays.
Talk about how animals can be our friends too. Talk about pets you have or other animals your child knows.	**Bath Time!** Bring some favorite toys or action figure friends into the bathtub. See which float and which sink.	 Tell your child a story about one of your friends when you were their age.	**Song Day!** *I'm a great big snowman, tall and fat.* *Here is my tummy.* *Here is my hat.* *Raisins for my eyes,* *and a carrot for my nose,* *I'm all snow from head to toe!*	Help your child come up with a New Year's resolution.	Talk about New Year's Eve and practice counting backwards from ten.	 Read a book and substitute your child's name and friends' names for the characters in the story.

Maryland Spotlight: Dr. Betsy Diamant-Cohen



Dr. Betsy Diamant-Cohen is the creator of "Mother Goose on the Loose," an award-winning, early-literacy program for children, from birth to age 3, and their parents or caregivers. This innovative program is based on research that shows that children learn best through routine and repetition in a nurturing environment. "Mother Goose on the Loose" uses a variety of activities, such as rhymes, songs, puppets, and instruments, to foster speech development, motor coordination, self-confidence, and sensitivity to others. She has traveled around the country and internationally to share this program with public librarians, childcare providers, and families through family programming and storytimes. She lives in Baltimore.

Books to Read to Little Ones

Baby Cakes by Karma Wilson

Baby Faces by Margaret Miller

Barnyard Dance by Sandra Boynton

Clap Hands by Helen Oxenbury

Counting Kisses by Karen Katz

From Head to Toe by Eric Carle

Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown

Hush, Little Baby by Marla Frazee

I Love Animals by Flora McDonnell

I Went Walking by Sue Williams

Itsy Bitsy Spider by Annie Kubler

Llama Llama Nighty-Night by Anna Dewdney

"More, More, More," Said the Baby by Vera B. Williams

My Very First Mother Goose by Iona Opie

Piggies by Audrey Wood

Say Goodnight by Helen Oxenbury

Time for Bed by Mem Fox

Choosing Books for Babies

- Board books are popular for babies because they are small and sturdy.
- As your baby learns to grasp things, choose light, washable cloth or vinyl books.
- Choose books with bright, colorful illustrations, geometric shapes, and clear pictures of human faces with high contrast between the picture and the background.
- Choose books with familiar objects or routine events like taking a bath or going to bed.
- As your baby gets older, choose books with textures, things to touch, and flaps to lift.
- Babies of any age enjoy homemade books and family photo albums.
- Mother Goose rhymes are always a good choice.

Tips for Sharing Books with Babies

- **Set the Mood:** Pick a time when you and your child are in a good mood, ready to enjoy your time together. Choose a quiet spot. Turn off the TV and the radio. Your voice is your child's favorite sound. Babies enjoy a soft, sing-song voice. You don't even need to read every page or all the words on the page of a book -- talking about one picture or one page is just fine. Singing about a picture or the story is great, too! Even if you can't sing on key, your child still thinks your voice is beautiful.
- **Preparation:** Choose books you will enjoy. Don't worry if you think you are not a good reader yourself. Even if you just talk about the pictures, you and your child will gain the enjoyment from the experience of reading together.
- **Participation:** Hold your baby in your lap and be sure (s)he can see the pages. Let your baby interact with the book and pages. Ask questions and point out objects. Do not be upset if your baby grabs the book and begins to chew on it. That is normal! If your baby puts a book in his mouth, you might try to gently and slowly take the book away from the baby's mouth and cheerfully say, "Let's see what's inside this book!" If your baby just wants to play with the book, that is fine. Perhaps you can try to read it together later.
- **Read Often:** Spend time every day reading a book with your baby. Let your baby play with books. Keep a book in your diaper bag so you can pull it out when it is convenient.



Special Information About Babies and Reading

Reading out loud helps babies to associate reading with warm, pleasant feelings. It introduces babies to sounds and rhythms, especially through rhymes like Mother Goose and poetry. Babies make sounds first – gurgling and cooing – which eventually become talking. They point, touch and chew on books, which help to develop their senses. Brain research has shown that your child's brain is being "wired" continually in the first months and years of his life. This "window of opportunity" is the perfect time to read aloud and share books with your little one.



"Music, Music, Music"

"Music, music, music" are the words to an old song that reminds us that the connection to music is in each one of us. Many studies have shown the incredible impact music can have on a child's development. Children can respond to music in the womb and, by a few months old, their wiggling and cooing demonstrate their reaction to a particular song, melody or rhythm. By the age of two, the brain signals the body to develop a sense of physical rhythm as well as movement like marching and dancing.

Music is for Every Age

From newborn infants to adults, we all respond and connect to music. Babies under six months tend to use their whole bodies (such as wiggling) if they hear music they like. As they grow older and motor skills begin to develop, they start to clap their hands or shake a rattle. To children, their parent or caregiver's voice is their favorite sound so it is important to spend time singing with your child.

Sing, dance, play and move with your child throughout each day. As your child grows older, you can expose your child to all different kinds of music including classical, world music, reggae and oldies. Many contemporary and classic songs are filled with wonderful drumming and rhythm sections that inspire dancing.

Many mainstream rock and pop bands release albums for children. Rockabye Baby, for example, is one series that includes instrumental lullaby versions from bands such as Coldplay and Pink Floyd. If you prefer more traditional children's music, make sure to check your library for the selections recommended in the "Children's Music to Check Out!" section.

Maryland Spotlight: Mr. Jon (Jon Lewis)

Singer/Songwriter, Jon Lewis, has over two decades of musical experiences that include playing shows in coffee houses, recording music CDs, appearing on a TV show, becoming a finalist in a national song-writing competition, and having international radio play from Belize to Ireland.

In 2009, Jon began working with children at the C. Burr Artz Central Library in Frederick MD, leading to a new direction in his musical career: songwriting and performing regularly for children. Jon and his wife, Carrie, recorded their first album for children and families, *Mr. Jon & Friends* at a Grammy Award winning studio, Acacia Recording & Production. It quickly became a top seller on CDbaby.com and won a 2013 Parents' Choice Award. Currently, Mr. Jon plays over 200 shows a year for children. Mr. Jon's new album, *Rock & Rhyme,* is also a top seller on CDbaby.com and recipient of another Parents' Choice Award.

Mr. Jon & Friends make music for children and their families that inspires fun, laughter, and dancing. Sometimes with a band, sometimes as a duo, and sometimes solo -- the music of Mr. Jon & Friends will bring a smile to all who hear. Jon states: "I love the power of music. Such a great way to promote early learning, healthy movements, and connection with others. It's also super fun for your ears!"

Sing Together!

Try out these alternative words for the song *A-B-C, 1-2-3* by the Tokens (You can sing the fun words together: *Dilly dilly dum dum dum dum dilly dilly* Don't forget to clap your hands and even do the twist!)

A B C D E F G
I'll Read To You And You Read To Me

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Books Give You Wings — They're A Bit Of Heaven

7 6 5 4 3 2 1
Books Give You Roots That Reach For The Sun

G F E D C B A
Hooray We're Going To The Library Today

Children's Music

Anna Moo Crackers by Anna Moo

Baby Loves Hip Hop Presents the Dino-5 by Various Artists

Best of the Laurie Berkner Band by Laurie Berkner

Clap for Love by Little Miss Ann

Family Time by Ziggy Marley

Here Come the 123s by They Might Be Giants

Here Come the ABCs by They Might Be Giants

Jim Gill Sings Moving Rhymes for Modern Times by Jim Gill

Jim Gill Sings the Sneezing Song and Other Contagious Tunes by Jim Gill

Kids in Action by Greg & Steve

Kids in Motion by Greg & Steve

Little Songs by Brian Vogan

Raffi The Singable Songs Collection by Raffi

Six Little Ducks by Kimbo

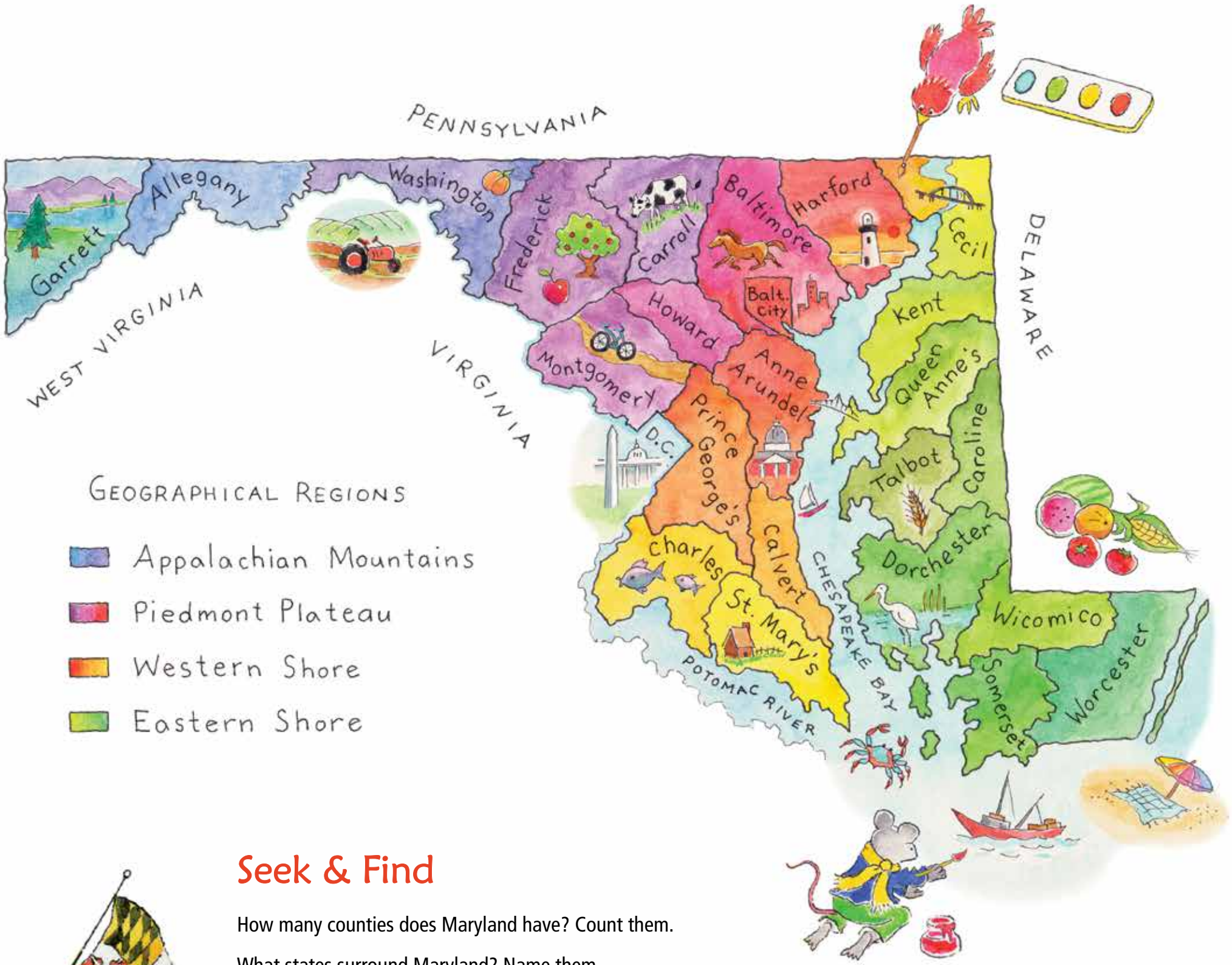
Smithsonian Folkways Children's Music Collection by Various Artists

SnackTime by the Barenaked Ladies

Time for Music by Frank Leto

World Playground by Putamayo Presents

Learn About Maryland





Seek & Find

How many counties does Maryland have? Count them.

What states surround Maryland? Name them.

Which counties are in each of Maryland's Geographical Regions?

What are Maryland's main bodies of water?

Which county do you live in? Find it on the Map.

HISTORIC SITES

Allegany
Fort Cumberland was a military and economic center during the French and Indian War (1754–63) and figured significantly in the early career of George Washington.

Anne Arundel
Home of the United States Naval Academy, founded in 1845. John Paul Jones is interred here in a crypt in the Naval Academy Chapel.

Baltimore
The B & O Railroad Museum denotes the birthplace of American railroading.

The Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine inspired Francis Scott Key, a lawyer and amateur poet, to compose "The Star Spangled Banner," originally entitled "Defense of Fort McHenry."

Caroline
The Linchester Mill was a part of the east/west secret network used to assist freedom seekers.

Carroll
The Union Mills Homestead is located in Union Mills, MD. The homestead is now a museum of American culture, operated by the Union Mills Homestead Foundation.

Frederick
South Mountain Battlefield was the first major Civil War battle to take place in MD.

Montgomery
The Clara Barton National Historic Site includes the Clara Barton House, established in 1974. Clara Barton was an American pioneer teacher, nurse, and humanitarian, and was the founder of the American Red Cross.

St. Mary's
St. Mary's City is home to a living history museum on the site of the first English colony in Maryland.

Washington
The Antietam National Battlefield of the Civil War is located in Sharpsburg, MD.

FESTIVALS

Allegany
Annual Heritage Days Festival celebrates the start of summer and the history of the area.

Anne Arundel
Kunta Kinte Heritage Festival happens in September at the Annapolis City Dock.

Baltimore
Artscape is America's largest free arts festival and is held every July.

Baltimore County
The Maryland State Fair happens annually in late August-early September.

Calvert
American Indian Heritage Day takes place every fall.

Caroline
The Wheat Thrashing Steam & Gas Engine Show occurs in August.

Carroll
The Flower and Jazz Festival is held the second Saturday in May.



Charles
Cobb Island Day is held every June.

Cecil
The Elkton Fall Fest happens every September.

Dorchester
Cambridge Tall Ships Schooner Rendezvous is held every October.

Frederick
Colorfest, one of the largest outdoor craft shows on the East Coast, is held every October.

Garrett
Celtic Festival is held annually in early summer.

Harford
The Darlington Apple Festival is held each October.

Howard
The Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival happens every spring.

Kent
The National Music Festival is held every June.

Montgomery
The World of Montgomery Festival happens every October.

Prince George's County
The Hispanic Festival is held every September.

Queen Anne's
Kent Island Day is held every May.

Somerset
Annual National Hard Crab Derby & Fair is held every Labor Day weekend.

St. Mary's
Maryland Day at St. Clement's Island is held annually in late March.

Talbot
The St. Joseph Jousting Tournament & Horse Show occurs every August.

Washington
The Leitersburg Peach Festival occurs annually in late summer.

Wicomico
The National Folk Festival is held every September.

Worcester
The Jelly Fish Festival is held every June.

FAMOUS PEOPLE

Anne Arundel
Charles Carroll was one of the signers of the American Declaration of Independence.

Johns Hopkins, 1795-1873, a wealthy merchant and investor, left large endowments to found Johns Hopkins University and Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Baltimore
Edgar Allan Poe spent much of his life in Baltimore and died there in 1849.

Thurgood Marshall, 1908-1993, served as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1967-1991. He was the Court's 96th justice and its first African-American justice.

Carroll/Frederick
Francis Scott Key, writer of the Star Spangled Banner, was born in what was then Frederick County and now is part of Carroll County.

Dorchester
Harriet Tubman was born into slavery and later utilized the Underground Railroad here.

Harford
Famed Orioles baseball player, Cal "Iron Man" Ripken, was born in Havre de Grace.

Talbot
Frederick Douglass was born into slavery in 1818.



PARKS & GARDENS

Allegany
Rocky Gap State Park contains 243-acres and is surrounded by mountains and Lake Habeeb, known for having the "bluest water in the state."

Caroline
Adkins Arboretum is a 400 acre garden dedicated to the diverse, native plants of the Delmarva Peninsula.

Carroll
The Carroll County Farm Museum offers sensational events and family-friendly activities in a nostalgic setting.

Dorchester
Harriet Tubman Memorial Garden features interpretive signs and murals that pay tribute to her and those who traveled to freedom from slavery through the Underground Railroad.

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) was established in 1933 as a waterfowl sanctuary for birds migrating along the Atlantic Flyway.

Frederick
The C&O Canal National Park remembers the canal that was a lifeline for nearly 100 years for communities along the Potomac River, sending coal, lumber, and agricultural products down the waterway to market.

The Catoctin Mountain Park and Cunningham Falls State Park are both located in the Catoctin Mountains.

Garrett
Deep Creek National Park is known for its streams and waterfalls.

Harford
Located on Otter Point Creek, the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center is a 600+ acre portion of the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Queen Anne's
The Terrapin Nature Area features a 3.25-mile oyster chaff walking trail.

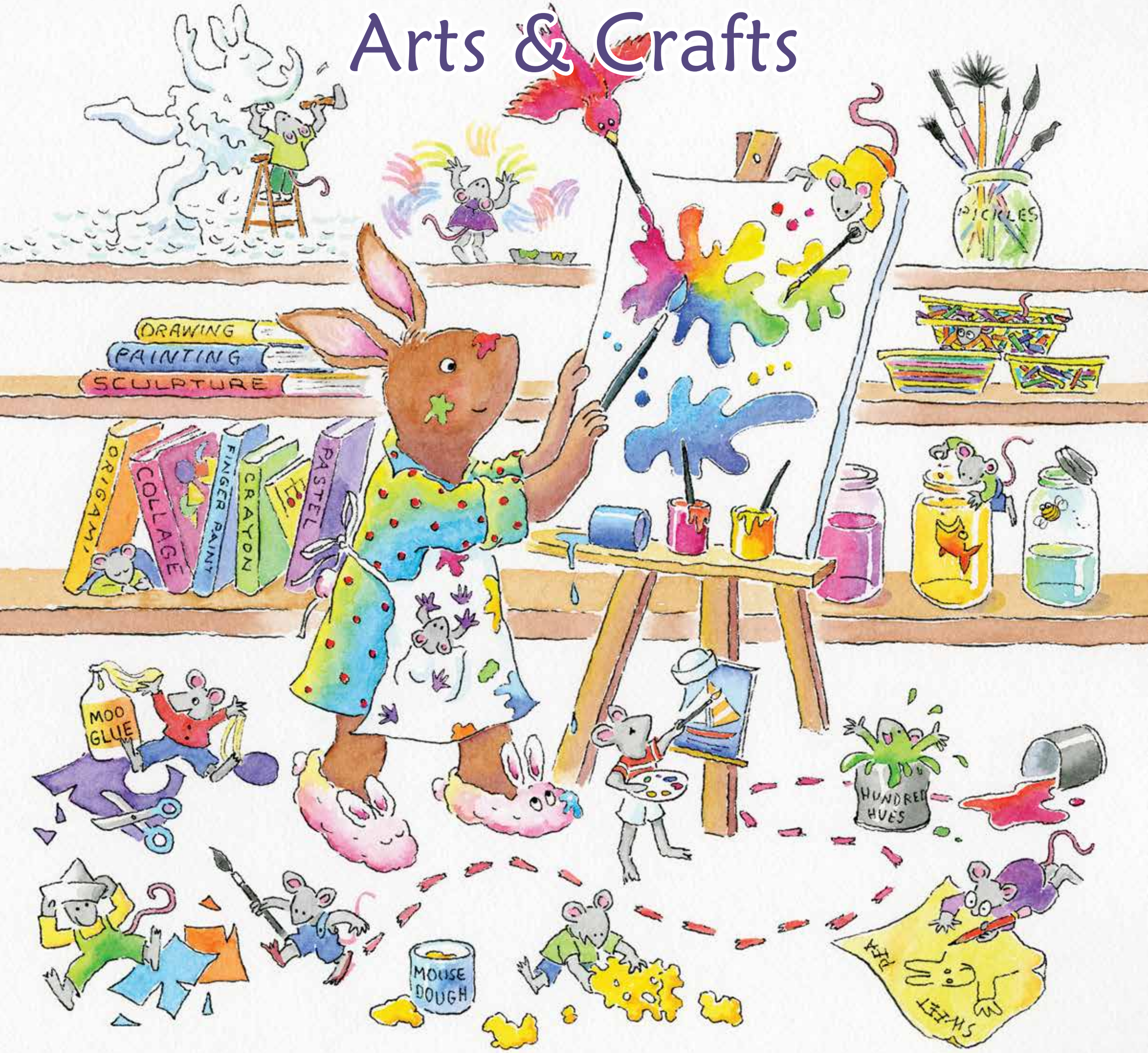
St. Mary's
Point Lookout State Park, includes a Civil War Museum, Lighthouse, and Reconstructions of Fort Lincoln and a Civil-War-era prisoner-of-war camp.

Washington
Washington Monument State Park is the first completed monument dedicated to the memory of George Washington.

Wicomico
Pemberton Historical Park is a 262-acre conservation area with nature trails & a house museum built in 1741.

Worcester
Assateague Island National Seashore is home to beaches, forests, and the famous Assateague ponies.

Arts & Crafts


DRAWING
PAINTING
SCULPTURE
ORIGAMI
COLLAGE
FINGER PAINT
CRAYON
PASTEL
PICKLES
MOO GLUE
MOUSE DOUGH
HUNDRED HUES
SKETCH
PEN

Play Dough

1 cup flour
1 cup water
2 tsp. cream of tartar
1/3 cup salt
1 Tb. vegetable oil
food coloring

Instructions:
In a saucepan, mix flour, cream of tartar and salt. Add water and vegetable oil. Turn burner on medium/low and stir. Before it thickens, add food coloring and stir. Continue stirring until it separates from pan and no longer looks wet. Remove and put on wax paper until it cools. Knead cooled dough and store in plastic bag.

Binoculars

2 toilet paper tubes or 1 paper towel tube
Yarn
Markers, crayons or stickers
Tape
Holepunch or scissors

Instructions:
Tape the two toilet paper tubes together. If using a paper towel tube, cut it in half and tape two pieces together. Make a small hole in each side and tie string around to make a necklace. Decorate tubes with markers, crayons or stickers. Once completed, ask your child to describe what they see when they use their binoculars.

Salt Dough

1 cup of fine salt
1 cup of flour
1/2 cup of water (may add more)

Instructions:
In a large bowl, combine the salt and the flour.
Make a well in the salt/flour mixture and add the water.
Knead until smooth and shape into a ball.
When not in use, wrap in plastic or store in an airtight container.

HINT: To get a softer dough you can add more flour. Add more salt to get more texture. To add color to your dough, add food coloring or paint. Knead to get an even color.

Beaded Bracelet

1 pipe cleaner
Assorted beads

Instructions:
Bend the end of the pipe cleaner so that the beads will not fall off. Show your child how to thread the beads onto the pipe cleaner. Encourage them to make a color pattern or to count the beads. Once the pipe cleaner is almost full, bend the two ends together to make a bracelet.

Bubble Blowing Solution

3 cups water
1 cup liquid dish detergent
1 Tb. sugar

Instructions:
Combine ingredients well. Dip bubble wand in and blow. To make a bubble wand you can bend a pipe cleaner, wire or wire hanger into shape. For colored solution, add food coloring.

Sock Puppet

1 old, mismatched light colored sock
Glue
Construction paper
Yarn
Markers

Instructions:
Have your child put the sock on their hand to see how it would work as a puppet. Help them decide what kind of puppet they would like to make. Using glue, paper, markers, yarn and any other craft supplies you might have, create a face and hair for the puppet. Once it is finished, your child can give their new sock puppet a name and use it to tell a story.

Edible Finger Paint

Vanilla or plain yogurt
Food coloring
Paper or paper plate

Instructions:
Divide yogurt up into separate containers to make as many colors as you would like. Add food coloring to each and mix. Encourage your child to use his fingers to dip in the paint and draw a picture on the paper or paper plate. If your child is hesitant to touch the paint with his fingers, let him use a paintbrush or Q-tip. Refrigerate any left over paint to use within the next few days.

Paper Plate Mask

Paper plates
Construction paper
Scissors
Markers
String
Glue

Instructions:
Cut two circles out of the paper plate for your eyes. Decorate the paper plate with crayons, markers, colored pencils, or even cut outs from magazines. Use construction paper to cut out shapes for ears, trunk, or nose. Using scissors or a hole punch, make two small holes near the side of the plate to attach string. Pull the string and make a knot, then take both pieces to tie around the back of your child's head. Be creative with what you have to decorate the mask. Stickers, pieces of fabric, feathers, or other items make great decorations.

Craft Books to Check Out!

Around the World Art & Activities by Judy Press

Art Lab for Little Kids: 52 Playful Projects for Preschoolers by Susan Schwake

The Arts and Crafts Busy Book by Trish Kuffner

Easy Origami by John Montroll

Ed Emberley's Complete Funprint Drawing Book by Ed Emberley

First Art for Toddlers and Twos by MaryAnn F. Kohl

Little Kid Paper Plate Crafts by Chris Yates

Preschool Art: It's the Process Not the Product! by MaryAnn F. Kohl

Science Arts: Discovering Science Through Art Experiences by MaryAnn F. Kohl

Show Me a Story: 40 Craft Projects and Activities to Spark Children's Storytelling by Emily K. Neuburger

Books About Art to Read Aloud

Art & Max by David Wiesner

The Art Lesson by Tomie dePaola

Beautiful Oops! by Barney Saltzberg

Dave the Potter by Laban Carrick Hill

The Dot by Peter H. Reynolds

Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni

Mouse Paint by Ellen Stoll Walsh

The Museum by Susan Verde

Museum Shapes by the Metropolitan Museum of Art

Too Much Glue by Jason Lefebvre



Find & Visit Your Library!

Did you know that there are almost 200 public library branches throughout Maryland and 19 bookmobiles? Maryland public libraries consistently offer approximately 30,000 early literacy programs for children, birth though age 5. Get in on the fun! Find your public library below.

Allegany County Library System | 301.777.1200 | alleganycountylibrary.info
Anne Arundel County Public Library | 410.222.7371 | aacpl.net
Enoch Pratt Free Library (Baltimore City) | 410.396.5430 | prattlibrary.org
Baltimore County Public Library | 410.887.6100 | bcpl.info
Calvert Library | 410.535.0291 or 301.855.1862 | calvertlibrary.info
Caroline County Public Library | 410.479.1343 | carolib.org
Carroll County Public Library | 410.386.4488 | library.carr.org
Cecil County Public Library | 410.996.5600 | cecilcountylibrary.org
Charles County Public Library | 301.934.9001 | ccplonline.org
Dorchester County Public Library | 410.228.7331 | dorchesterlibrary.org
Frederick County Public Libraries | 301.600.1630 | fcpl.org
The Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County | 301.334.3996 | relib.net
Harford County Public Library | 410.638.3151 | hcplonline.org
Howard County Library System | 410.313.7750 | hclibrary.org
Kent County Public Library | 410.778.3636 | kentcountylibrary.org
Montgomery County Public Libraries | 240.777.0002 | montgomerycountymd.gov/library/
Prince George's County Memorial Library System | 301.699.3500 | pgcmls.info
Queen Anne's County Library | 410.758.0980 | qaclibrary.org
St. Mary's County Library | 301.475.2846 | stmalib.org
Somerset County Library | 410.651.0852 | somelibrary.org
Talbot County Free Library | 410.822.1626 | tcfl.org
Washington County Free Library | 301.739.3250 | washcolibrary.org
Wicomico Public Library | 410.749.3612 | wicomicolibrary.org
Worcester County Library | 410.632.2600 | worcesterlibrary.org

MD State Library Resource Center (SLRC) | Enoch Pratt Free Library | 410.396.5429
slrc.info

MD Library for the Blind and Print Disabled (LBPD) | 410-230-2424
msla.maryland.gov/Pages/LBPD.aspx

Find your local public library at:

marylandlibraries.org

Helpful Contacts & Reading Resources

B'more for Healthy Babies
healthybabiesbaltimore.com

CentroNia, Maryland
301.543.8040
https://www.centronia.org/

Maryland Public Television - Kids
410.356.5600
mpt.org/kids/

Maryland Book Bank
443.517.9767
mdbookbank.org

Maryland Family Network
410.659.7701
marylandfamilynetwork.org

Maryland Head Start Association
301.744.9472; 443.595.6472
md-hsa.org

MD Department of Agriculture
Maryland's Best - Homegrown by Heroes
410.841.5779
https://marylandsbest.maryland.gov/homegrown-by-heroes/

MD State Department of Education
410-767-0100
marylandpublicschools.org

MD Department of the Environment
410-537-3000
mde.maryland.gov

MD Department of Health – Maternal and Child Health Bureau
health.maryland.gov/phpa/mch/Pages/home.aspx
410.767.6500

MD Department of Human Services (for Children & Families)
1.800.332.6347
dhs.maryland.gov

MD Department of Natural Resources (Educational Resources)
877.620.8367
dnr.maryland.gov/education

PBS Kids Reading Games
pbskids.org/games/reading

The Peter Rabbit Website
peterrabbit.com

Reading Rockets
readingrockets.org

Ready At Five
410.788.5725
readyatfive.org

RIF (Reading is Fundamental) Leading to Reading
rif.org

Sesame Street Online
sesamestreet.org

Starfall
starfall.com

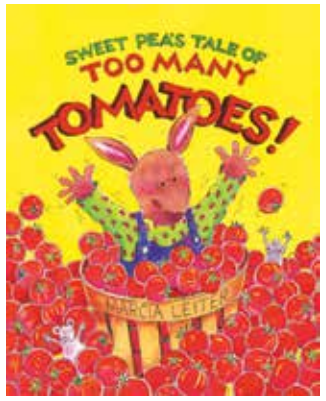
Storyline
storylineonline.net

Storyplace: The Children's Digital Learning Library
storyplace.org

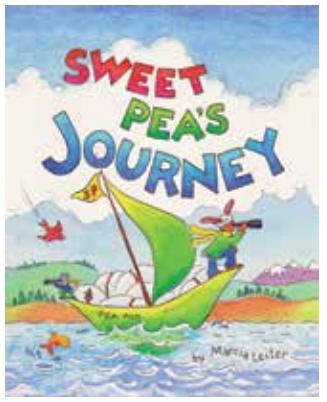


About the Illustrator: Marcia Leiter

Marcia Leiter is the author and illustrator of a picture book series featuring Sweet Pea, String Bean, multitudes of mice and other creatures. She lives in Carroll County, Maryland surrounded by a green garden filled with trees, flowers, rabbits, butterflies, birds, and the occasional snake or fox. She has completed three books so far which can be found at your local library, and has plans for many more. (Yes, each book has a Seek & Find at the end!) You can learn more at sweet-pea.net.









Maryland Families Engage

https://marylandfamiliesengage.org/

A Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) resource, the Maryland Families Engage website is designed to help build a community of support for those who care for and work with children. This resource contains links to child development, family engagement initiatives, mental health, nutrition, literacy and more.

Tell us what you think!

Complete our survey about **Maryland Day by Day** by scanning the QR Code or visiting the link below.

https://tinyurl.com/y3g3bbn2

Alphabet Seek & Find

A: Africa, Alphabet, Animals, Ant, Antanae, Apple, Arm, Arrow

B: Bird, Beak, Blackboard, Bow, Box, Bug, Bunny, Branch, Bread

C: Chain, Chalk, Chalkboard, Crayons, Crumbs

D: Desks, Door, Dress

E: Ear, Eggs, Eraser, Eye

F: Face, Feet, Fence, Fish, Flower, Fly, Frame, Frog

G: Giraffe, Globe, Grass

H: Hand, Hinge, Hippo

I: Iguana, Ink

J: Jam, Jar

K: Key, Knob, Koala

L: Ladybug, Leaf, Legs, Letters

M: Marbles, Moose, Mouse

N: Nail, Nest, Nine

O: Ostrich, Owl

P: Pants, Pencil, Petal, Picture, Pocket, Polka Dots

Q: Queen, Quill

R: Rhino, Ribbon, Rose

S: Shelf, Shoe, Sign, Smile, Sock, Spider, Students, String, Stripes

T: Tail, Teacher, Tiger, Tree, Turtle

U: Umbrella, Underwear, Up

V: Vase, Violin

W: Watch, Web, Wing

X: Xylophone

Y: Yardstick, Yo-Yo

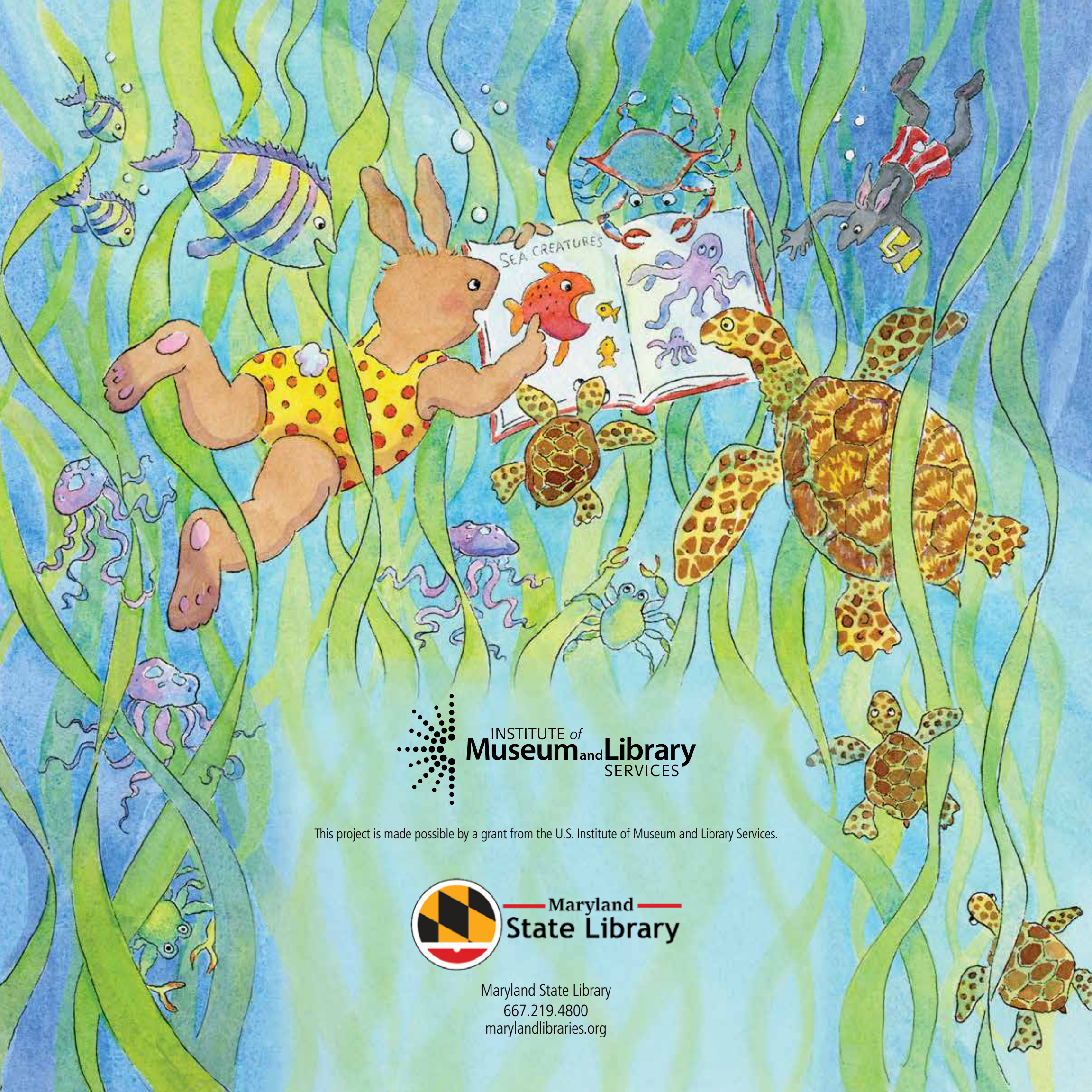
Z: Zipper, Zoo

Acknowledgements

The **Maryland Day by Day Family Literacy Activity Forever Calendar** is a collaboration of several wonderful and talented people. We are fortunate to have worked with these groups and individuals for this original edition of the calendar. We would like to thank them for their words of inspiration, assistance, and support of this project, and permission to use professional resources, logos, and photos:

Institute of Museum and Library Services * Mary Amato * Jerdine Nolen * Lulu Delacre * Kevin O'Malley * Debbie Levy * Ronald L. Smith * Laura Gehl Phyllis Reynolds Naylor * Jon Lewis * Marcia Leiter * Betsy Diamant-Cohen and the Mother Goose on the Loose program * Baltimore County Public Library Maryland's Best - Homegrown By Heroes Program * Public Library Association's (PLA) and the Association of Library Services to Children's (ALSC) Every Child Ready to Read program * Carroll County Public Library * H. G. Roebuck & Son, Inc. * South Carolina State Library Staff * Maryland State Department of Education

From Carrie Sanders and the Maryland State Library, we dedicate **Maryland Day by Day** to families across the state in the hope that you will continue to develop a love for libraries, books, and learning that will last a lifetime.



INSTITUTE of Museum and Library SERVICES

This project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Maryland State Library

Maryland State Library
667.219.4800
marylandlibraries.org