To Librarians:

This calendar is intended to encourage parents to follow through with the“1000 books before Kindergarten” program.

The calendar includes early literacy tips for ages 12 months to 24 months.

Offer stickers to parents to mark their progress. Add books that your library carries around holiday times. Have parents mark their child’s birthday and any special occasion they celebrate as a family and suggest they find books in your library that cater to those special days!

Offer small incentives like pizza parties or ice cream socials when parents reach a reading goal.

You can collect the reading log at the end of each month or year. Use this Calendar as a tool in your individual program!

Don’t forget to add any programs that your library runs like weekly story times or the Summer Reading Program. You can impact the progression of this program by interacting with parents and their children! Get to know them, encourage them, and remind them they are taking steps in making their children life-long learners!

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

Book log and Monthly Calendar

Ages 12 months to 24 months

[insert your library logo here]

Place a sticker or a check mark in the date box for every book you read with your child!

**January**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Pay attention when your child talks to you. This helps your child feel like a good communicator! It’s okay if you don’t understand, ask your child to show you what they want or point to it!

It’s a brand new year! **Head to the Library** and ask the staff what their favorite books were last year. Don’t forget to grab a book for yourself!

**February**

 **Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Make weekly story times at the library a routine! Exposure to books and libraries establish a life-long **Love** of learning!

**Did you know:** In 1537, England's King Henry VII officially declared February 14th the holiday of St. Valentine's Day?

**Here are some titles** to help celebrate this **Love** filled holiday with your child:

**March**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** At this age, “lift-the-flap books” are great! They offer the element of surprise and they are entertaining and fun for everyone!

**Here are some of our favorite “peek-a-boo” books:**

**April**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Kids love repetition! Reading the same story over and over is good for them! This helps your child connect with words and storylines in the book. Repetition can be tedious for adults, so make it fun by adding character voices and silly songs!

**Did you know:** April is National Poetry Month?

**Here are some titles** to help celebrate:

**May**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Your child learns through movement! Sing songs with movement like “Pat-A-Cake” This type of interaction prepares your child for reading!

**Did you know**: May 22nd is Musical Instrument Day! Add a drum to your song!

**Here are some titles** to help you and your child celebrate:

**June**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** One year old attention spans are short! Notice what your child notices and pays attention to. It could be a dog or a school bus. Your librarian can help you find a title about what your child notices!

**Did you know:** In 2012, June was declared “Great Outdoors Month!” Spend lots of time outside with your child this month. Point out as many words in the real world as you can!

**July**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Your child learns better in an environment where they feel safe and comfortable. Familiarize your child with the library by making storytimes a weekly habit!

We celebrate the **Fourth of July** this month! **Here are some titles** you and your child might like:

**August**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Learn some basic words in sign language and teach your child! Signing is a great tool your child can use to explore words. Research shows this practice increases vocabulary and does not interfere with normal speech development.

**Here are some titles** that will help you incorporate signing into your daily routine:

**September**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Your child picks up your habits! Make sure to have magazines, newspapers and books around your home. Talk to your friends and family members about what you’ve read and are reading and ask them what they’re reading.

What was your favorite book growing up? **Check it out at the library!**

**Here are some of our Favorite Books:**

**October**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Reading includes pairing visual symbols with sounds. Point to simple words like “cow” or “cat,” enunciate the word, then point to the illustration. Add a sound like a “meow” or a “moo” for flair!

**Here are some fun books to read in October:**

 **November**

 **Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Talk to your child about what they see in books. Tell them the names of animals and colors.

**Did you know:** the first Saturday of the month is **Book Lover’s Day!** Spend some time at the library with your child!

We also celebrate **Thanksgiving** this month! **Here are some titles** to help you and your child celebrate:

**December**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Your child is forming her own opinions! Give your child options. Ask her what books she wants to read, what cuddle buddy she wants at nap time, and what type of snack she wants. This builds your child’s confidence in decision making!

We have lots to celebrate in December! **Here are some Favorite Holiday Titles** for you and your child: