



## Learning Fun with Your Little One!

# Winter

*You can help your child get ready to read.*

*Five of the best ways are:*

*reading, writing, talking, singing and playing.*

### Reading

- Read with your child every day.
- Read a winter story with your child and have your child retell it or act it out.
- Stop in the middle of a story and ask your child to predict what happens next.
- February is Dental Health Month. Read a book about the dentist with your child.
- Read about an animal that hibernates in the winter. Let your child draw a picture of it.
- Show your child the front cover of a book and ask your child to tell you what the book will be about.
- Visit the library and allow your child to select a book for bedtime storytime.

### Writing

- January 29 is National Puzzle Day. Work a puzzle with your child.
- Let your child help write the shopping list.
- Have your child trace the letters in his/her name.
- Write letters /numbers in shaving cream.
- Make Valentine cards and allow your child to “sign” his/her name.
- Write winter words and have your child find the letters in magazines.
- Make an animal out of different size hearts.
- Have your child draw a Valentine picture. After discussing what they drew, write a caption or story.
- Have your child spell out winter words with magnetic letters.
- Have your child tear wax paper into tiny pieces and put in a small jar. Fill the jar with water and tighten the lid. Shake the jar! The paper bits will appear to be dancing snowflakes.

### Talking

- Feed the birds in your yard. Talk about how birds are hungry in the winter and why.
- Go for a walk with your child on a windy day and talk about things blowing in the wind.
- Talk about the weather.
- Talk about someone special.
- Ask your child questions that require more than a yes or no.
- Count items—cereal pieces, houses on the street, toys, shoes, buttons.
- Talk about what you see at the store and how items differ and are alike.
- Have your child find letters in magazines, on food boxes, on road signs.
- Make a fun snack and talk about the order you do things.

### Singing

- Sing a song about winter!
- Check out a CD from the library and learn a new song for a special winter day!
- Dance to a song about winter!
- Teach your child a finger play about winter.
- Clap to the rhythm of a song on the radio.
- Make up a song about playing in the snow.
- Sing nursery rhymes.
- Sing the alphabet song.

### Playing

- Go outside and build a snowman or make a snow angel.
- Let your child find paper hearts you have hidden in your house.
- Let your child create snow scenes in shaving cream sprayed on a table top.
- Have your child use tongs to put cotton balls in an ice cube tray.
- Have your child look for items of a certain shape or color in the room or car.
- Have your child pretend to be a snowman on a sunny day.....on a cold day.
- Make a winter alphabet book using pictures from magazines.
- Have your child make a paper snowman and then make up a story about it.
- Give your child a box to fill with red items.