

discovery time

Wild Weather

Parents and caregivers, extend Discovery Time into your home. Share these fingerplays and activities with young children. **The letter for this theme is W.**

Dance Like Snowflakes

(Tune: "Frère Jacques")

Dance like snowflakes,
Dance like snowflakes,
In the air.
In the air.

Whirling, twirling snowflakes,
Whirling, twirling snowflakes,
Here and there,
Here and there.

Sing a Song of Sunshine

(Tune: "Sing a Song of Sixpence")

Sing a song of sunshine
Be happy every day.
Sing a song of sunshine
You'll chase the clouds away.
Be happy every moment,
No matter what you do
Just sing and sing and sing and sing,
And let the sunshine through!

Itsy, Bitsy Spider

(Traditional Tune)

The itsy, bitsy spider
Went 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
Went up the spout again.

The Umbrella Song

Down come the raindrops, splash, splash, splash!

(Stomp feet with every splash)

Let's run for cover, dash, dash, dash!

(Run in place)

Pitter patter, pitter patter, drip, drip, drop!

(Clap hands in rhythm)

I'm under my umbrella till the raindrops stop!

(Hold up pretend umbrella)

Bright Sun

(Tune: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

Bright sun shining down,

(Form sun over head with arms)

Shining on the ground.

(Stretch arms out wide)

What a lovely face you have,

(Place hands on cheeks)

Yellow, big, and round.

(Form sun over head with arms)



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Help your child get ready to read with these simple activities.

- **Talking:** Take a sensory walk around your neighborhood or a nearby park. As you walk, stop and watch; listen, smell, touch, and even taste. As you explore, expand your child's vocabulary by asking and answering questions.
- **Singing:** Using music during every day routines makes them more enjoyable. Sing songs during bath time, while running errands, or while cleaning up toys.
- **Reading:** One of the easiest ways to show your child the importance of reading is to make a special place to store your child's books. Assigning a place for her books shows her that books are special.
- **Writing:** Give your child paper, crayons, markers, or pencils. Scribbling is the beginning of writing.
- **Playing:** The use of small percussion instruments such as bells, rhythm sticks, shakers, and drums helps children with muscular development and coordination.

family literacy tip

Have a Word

Building a broad vocabulary is essential to reading comprehension now and later in school. One way to expand your child's vocabulary is to read aloud to him, choosing books that are a couple of grade levels above his. He will be acquiring a knowledge from a bank of rich words, and when he eventually comes across them on his own, they won't be 100 percent new.

"4 Ways to Make Reading Fun." *Parents*, 2018,
<https://www.parents.com/kids/education/reading/4-ways-to-make-reading-fun/>.
Accessed 14 Nov. 2018



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