

# January 2024

## Early Literacy Calendar

*This Month's*  
Early Literacy Specialist  
Visits at EarlyON sites:

**Barrie**—129 Ferris Lane  
Tuesday January 9, 2024  
9:00am Stay, Play & Learn

**Collingwood**  
475 Second St.  
Thursday January 11, 2024  
9:30am Stay, Play & Learn

**Beeton**—DA Jones Library  
42 Main St W  
Monday January 15, 2024  
9:30am Stay, Play & Learn

**Bradford**—118 Barrie St.  
Tuesday January 16, 2024  
9:00am Stay, Play & Learn  
1:00pm Stay, Play & Learn

**Alliston**—13 Wellington St  
Monday January 22, 2024  
9:00am Stay, Play & Learn

**Orillia**—St Bernards  
255 Oxford St.  
Tuesday January 23, 2024  
9:00am Stay, Play & Learn

**Orillia**—80 Colborne St W  
Wednesday January 24, 2024  
9:00am Stay, Play & Learn

**Innisfil**—ideaLAB  
967 Innisfil Beach Rd  
Thursday January 25, 2024  
9:30am Stay, Play & Learn



AMY ST JOHN  
Early Literacy Specialist  
Simcoe County  
EarlyON  
Child & Family Centres

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>2</b> New Year, New Routines! Be sure to include <b>15 minutes of read aloud time</b> into your daily schedule.</p>	<p><b>3</b> Gather towels, blankets and a few pillows for an indoor picnic. We can talk about the differences between summer and winter.</p>	<p><b>4</b> "Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children, play is serious learning." Fred Rogers</p>	<p><b>5</b> Warm &amp; engaging relationships, not things, build healthy brains!</p>	<p><b>6</b> Let's find time to go a walk today. I need to move my body to be <b>calm, alert and ready to learn.</b></p>
	<p><b>7</b> Can you tell me a story about our culture or a family tradition? I want to learn about who we are.</p>	<p><b>8</b> Rhymers become readers! Can you teach me a nursery rhyme today?</p>	<p><b>9</b> Teach me about taking <b>deep, calming breaths.</b> I can make a rainbow with my arms while breathing in and out.</p>	<p><b>10</b> Can we visit EarlyON today?</p>	<p><b>11</b> As my speech develops I am learning so many new words. Let's walk around the house together, and you <b>label</b> everything we see that is round.</p>	<p><b>12</b> <b>Providing choices</b> helps me build my decision making. Can I choose my outfit for the day?</p>	<p><b>13</b> <b>Family Game Night</b></p>
	<p><b>14</b> Snow is a canvas. Let's create a masterpiece together. We can use water &amp; food colouring in a squirt bottle or twigs &amp; pinecones.</p>	<p><b>15</b> Let's try bubbles outside. They might freeze.</p>	<p><b>16</b> Tell me something that I have done well today. <b>Meaningful praise</b> helps me recognize my strengths.</p>	<p><b>17</b> Can we read a book or talk about an animal that lives in a cold climate?</p>	<p><b>18</b> Bring some snow inside and play with me. A large bowl of snow and some of my toys can be a lot of fun.</p>	<p><b>19</b> <b>Strive for Five</b> turns in a conversation with me back and forth about the SAME TOPIC.</p>	<p><b>20</b> Remember parents, take some time for yourself to recharge!</p>
	<p><b>21</b> Can I help with the chores today? I learn about responsibility when we work on a task together.</p>	<p><b>22</b> Disconnect to connect. Let's limit screen time today and play together.</p>	<p><b>23</b> Let's get messy! Can I play with shaving cream or whipped cream today? <b>Messy play</b> fosters curiosity, imagination and exploration.</p>	<p><b>24</b> What were you like as a child? Tell me a story about you when you were my age.</p>	<p><b>25</b> Let's be silly together. I love laughing with you.</p>	<p><b>26</b> Let's make faces in the mirror together. We can make mad, happy, sad, excited, and nervous faces. This will help me <b>learn about feelings.</b></p>	<p><b>27</b> <b>Family Literacy Day</b> This year's theme is Celebrate Your Heritage! Explore books about cultures, especially yours.</p>
	<p><b>28</b> Let's visit the library today. We can explore books and more. Ask about the "Library of Things."</p>	<p><b>29</b> Get out the pots, pans and spoons. Will I play drums or fill them with toys? Let's see what I do, <b>follow my lead.</b></p>	<p><b>30</b> Let's go outside to practice tracing shapes, numbers and letters in the snow with my finger.</p>	<p><b>31</b> Make a list of the books you have read together this month.</p>	<p><i>"The fire of literacy is created by the emotional sparks between a child, a book, and the person reading. It isn't achieved by the book alone, nor by the child alone, nor by the adult who's reading aloud – it's the relationship winding between all three, bringing them together in easy harmony." Mem Fox</i></p>		