

Raising Readers Backpack

Congratulations! By checking out and using this backpack from **Capital Area District Libraries**, you are helping your child develop important literacy skills. Although these skills are very important, they can also be fun to learn.

In fact, every time you use one of these five simple practices with your child, you are helping him or her develop into a lifelong learner: **reading, writing, talking, singing** and **playing**.

Here are some ideas for using the items in this backpack:

- Read the books together, pointing out new words as you go along.
- Write some of the letters or words you see in the book.
- Talk with your child about the items in the kit. Ask what he or she thinks the stories might be about.
- Listen to the music on the CD or DVD.
- After finishing one of the stories, imagine together what might happen next.

Read • Write • Talk • Sing • Play

This tip sheet stays with the backpack. For a copy of your own, visit any CADL branch or cadl.org/raisingreaders.

APPLES

BACKPACK ACTIVITIES

APPLE TREE

Way up high in the apple tree *(stretch arm up high)*

Five red apples smiled at me *(hold up 5 fingers)*

I shook that tree as hard as I could *(make a shaking motion)*

Down came the apples, *(make a downward motion)*

Mmmm--were they good! *(smile and rub stomach)*

Repeat the rhyme until all the apples are off of the tree!

TEN RED APPLES

Ten red apples growing on a tree,
(hold hands high with fingers extended)

Five for you and five for me.
(wave one hand, then the other)

Help me shake the tree just so,
(shake body)

And ten red apples fall down below.
(lower hands with fingers extended)

One, two, three, four, five,
(count fingers on one hand)

Six, seven, eight, nine, ten.
(Count fingers on the other hand).

I'M A LITTLE APPLE

(to the tune: I'm a little teapot)

I'm a little apple, short and round
I make a munchy, crunchy sound,
If you bite into me you will see...
I'm delicious as can be!

MATH WITH APPLES!

Show your child an apple and ask him/her to guess how many seeds will be inside of it. Invite them to find out exactly how many seeds are there by cutting the apple open and picking out all of the seeds. Count them. Do all apples have the same number of seeds? Cut open another one and find out!

ART WITH APPLES!

Cut an apple in half so that you can see the "star" pattern that the core forms in the apple. Put some tempera paint in a bowl and show your child how to dip the cut side of the apple in the paint and press it onto a piece of paper creating an apple print.

