

# 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](http://cadl.org/raisingreaders).

# FRIENDS

## BACKPACK ACTIVITIES

**Draw** a picture of your friends.

**Make** a friendship chain. Cut any color of paper in strips to form into a chain. Write the name of a friend on a strip of paper and add it into the chain.

**Play** a friendship guessing game. Record friends' voices on any device. Play back the voice for your child and have them guess which friend it is.

**Use** the magnetic friends dolls in your backpack to play. Allow your child to dress them any way he/she wants. Create scenarios for your child to have the friends interact or simply allow your child to free play with them.

**Invite** some friends over for a play date to sing along and dance to the songs on the CD or to play with the magnetic friends dolls.

**Talk** with your child about what makes a good friend. Use the situations, ideas, and characters in the included books as a start to the conversation.

