

# 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 watch the DVD together. Play with the toys included in the backpack.
- After finishing one of the stories, imagine 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).

# HORSES

## BACKPACK ACTIVITIES

### **Action Rhyme: “I Gave My Horse an Apple”**

I gave my horse an apple, (pretend to give something)

And she gave me a neigh. (neigh)

I gave my horse a carrot, (pretend to give something)

And she moved her head this way. (move head up and down)

I gave my horse a sugar lump, (pretend to give something)

She gave me a smile. (smile big)

And then she took me for a ride,

For more than half a mile. (slap hands on thighs like galloping)

Credit: Storytime in a Box

### **Fingerplay: “Ten Galloping Horses”**

Ten galloping horses, (hold up ten fingers)

Came through town. (slap hands on legs like galloping)

Five were white, (hold up five fingers)

And five were brown. (hold up five fingers on other hand)

They galloped up, (slap up toward top of thighs)

They galloped down, (slap down toward knees)

Ten galloping horses, (hold up ten fingers)

Came through town. (slap hands on legs like galloping)

Credit: King County Library System

### **Counting 25 Horses & Naming Colors Activity**

Sort the horses into blue, orange, yellow, red and green groups.

Count the number of horses together.

