



FREE INTERNET RESOURCES FOR EARLY LITERACY

The emphasis on these websites is on “how-to” along with easy activities for parents, caregivers, preschools, and other groups. Materials can be downloaded, then copied.

If you don't have Internet access or are not sure how to get to the sites you want, ASK A LIBRARIAN, THE BEST SEARCH ENGINE @your library

- America Reads, <www.ed.gov/inits/americanreads/> Be sure to take time to explore not only the initial site but connected pages. For example, the parent section includes another program called Ready*Set*Read <www.ed.gov/Family/RSRforFamily/index.html>
- American Library Association site, “Born to Read” and bibliographies for books (babies and toddlers), with tip sheets and pamphlets, **English and Spanish**. Download short versions, cut and paste, copy. <www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/initiatives/borntoread/index.cfm>
- ALA book lists for different groups--little kids, birth to five; diversity; middle school, Latinos, many more. <www.ala.org/ala/awardsgrants/booksprintmedia/childrenyngadults/index.cfm>
- Barahona Center for Study of Books in **Spanish** for Children and Adolescents. At this site you can COMPILE A BOOKLIST OF TITLES of Spanish-language books for kids. Then you can ask your librarian to get some of them. <www.csusm.edu/csb/>
- “Born to Succeed” or “La Liave del Exito” Great video on young parents and reading to babies and toddlers, 10 to 12 minutes, in their own words. \$24, Multnomah County Library, Early Childhood Resources, 205 NE Russell St, Portland OR 97212-3796, 503.248,5458. **English and Spanish**. Or borrow a copy through interlibrary loan. Also other resources such as tiny books in English and Spanish with finger plays. <www.multcolib.org/birthtosix/ecr/products.html>
- “Building Your Baby’s Brain” **English and Spanish**, US Dept of Education Extensive booklet for parents with activities to stimulate babies’ brains and enhance their development. This publication reviews all the basics about brain development for the first five years. Free at <www.teachingstrategies.com/content/pageDocs/buildingbaby.pdf> Or Spanish at <www.teachingstrategies.com/content/pageDocs/spanbuilding.pdf>
- “Checkpoints for Progress In Reading and Writing for Families and Communities” Gives developmental milestones on what kids should be doing at certain ages and what families can do to help; birth to 12th grade. <www.ed.gov/pubs/CheckFamilies/>
- * Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy is a coalition of libraries and staff supporting implementation and training about early literacy, with a focus on adapting read-aloud storytimes to incorporate skills. <www.clel.org>
- Colorado State Library children’s literacy initiatives: Links, tips, publications, including FREE pamphlets, “Reading Tips for Parents” and “Ready? Set? Go! Kindergarten Readiness” in **English and Spanish**. Booklists, volunteer projects, other resources. <www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/Childrens_Literacy_Resources.htm>

- Colorin Colorado, an **all-Spanish** site with tons of parent and educator information to help with literacy, birth through high school. [<www.colorincolorado.org/>](http://www.colorincolorado.org/)
- Disabilities or potential learning difficulties, free screening and assistance, children birth to three, Early Childhood Connections. [<www.earlychildhoodconnections.org>](http://www.earlychildhoodconnections.org) For older children, contact Child Find, [<http://www.cde.state.co.us/early/childfind.htm>](http://www.cde.state.co.us/early/childfind.htm)
- “Every Child Ready to Read @your library” PLA and ALSC curriculum with handouts and activities, downloadable free. Some **Spanish**. [<www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/ecrr/index.cfm/>](http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/ecrr/index.cfm)
- Helping Your Child Succeed in School”: A number of publications associated with the Federal No Child Left Behind act, this site links to useful materials about reading. Also in **Spanish**. [<www.ed.gov/parents/read/resources/edpicks.jhtml?src=ln>](http://www.ed.gov/parents/read/resources/edpicks.jhtml?src=ln)
- “Kansas Kids Ready for Learning” [<www.readyforlearning.net>](http://www.readyforlearning.net) Chock full of links of all types—reading, writing, and math] parents, school, activities, studies, organizations. For kids birth to 8.
- PBS [<www.pbskids.org>](http://www.pbskids.org) For ANY children’s programming—Arthur, Teletubbies, Sesame Street, Barney. Free activities, coloring sheets, advice for adults. Good to use with the programs.
- "Reading Is Fundamental" searchable list of activities for kids birth to fifteen years for families, caregivers, teachers. Free downloadable bilingual picture book, lots of activities. Reading Planet is the section for school-aged. [<www.rif.org/educators/>](http://www.rif.org/educators/) or [<www.rif.org/parents/>](http://www.rif.org/parents/)
- Reading Rockets, launching young readers. Tons of information for parents and educators, easy-to-use articles, web casts, Public Broadcasting programs, free e-news, one-page reading tips for parents in 11 languages! [<www.readingrockets.org>](http://www.readingrockets.org)
- Smart Start Colorado: [<www.smartstartcolorado.org>](http://www.smartstartcolorado.org) A central point for all types of services (not just literacy) and coordinated efforts in early childhood across the state, especially useful for professionals and community organizers. Has periodic free newsletter.
- Staying on Track... as Your Child Grows & Learns” Colorado Department of Education Initiatives. Free brief brochures targeted to parents of children birth to 5 years, **English** [<www.earlychildhoodconnections.org/files/SOT.pdf>](http://www.earlychildhoodconnections.org/files/SOT.pdf) and **Spanish** [<www.earlychildhoodconnections.org/files/SOT_span.pdf>](http://www.earlychildhoodconnections.org/files/SOT_span.pdf)
- “The Story Place,” Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County. Online Internet, **English and Spanish** stories for all ages of kids, games, etc. [<www.storyplace.org/>](http://www.storyplace.org/)
- “Star Fall,” extensive website for learning to read. Best done with one or two children on your lap until they can navigate a computer themselves. [<www.starfall.com>](http://www.starfall.com)
- Talaris Research Institute, [<www.talaris.org>](http://www.talaris.org) Works on early learning and parenting. Articles, references. Especially interesting are the 60-second videos in **English and Spanish** that can be played on your computer. [<www.talaris.org/parentingcounts.htm>](http://www.talaris.org/parentingcounts.htm)

REMEMBER, libraries have FREE books and activities year-round.
Check our website for more resources—telephone stories, Spanish, etc.
[cwww.cde.state.co.us/ca'elib/Childrens_Literacy_Resources.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/ca'elib/Childrens_Literacy_Resources.htm)
 Provided as a public service by the Colorado State Library, Colorado Department of Education,
 For information, contact 303-866-6900.