To Librarians:

This calendar is intended to encourage parents to follow through with the“1000 books before Kindergarten” program.

The calendar includes early literacy tips for ages birth to 12 months.

Offer stickers to parents to mark their progress. Add books to the calendar that your library carries around holiday times. Have parents mark their child’s birthday and any special occasion they celebrate as a family, and encourage them to find books in your library that cater to those special days!

Offer small incentives like pizza parties or ice cream socials when parents reach a reading goal.

You can collect the reading log at the end of each month or year. Use this Calendar as a tool in your individual program!

Don’t forget to add any programs that your library runs like weekly story times or the Summer Reading Program. You can impact the progression of this program by interacting with parents and their children! Get to know them, encourage them, and remind them they are taking steps in making their children life-long learners!

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

Book log and Monthly Calendar

Ages birth-12 months

[your library logo here]

Place a sticker or a check mark in the date box for every book you read with your child!

**January 2014**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Pick a soothing song to calm your baby. Repetition helps build and strengthen brain connections. Sing when needed and as often as possible!

It’s a brand new year! **Head to the Library** and ask the staff what their favorite books were in the last year. Don’t forget to grab a book for yourself!

**February**

 **Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Reading out loud to your child helps him learn to **love** books! It also helps his mind grow!

**Did you know:** In 1537, England's King Henry VII officially declared February 14th the holiday of St. Valentine's Day?

**Here are some titles** to help celebrate this **love** filled holiday with your child:

**March**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Introduce books to your baby! Board books can be wiped down and cloth books can be thrown in the laundry. Books are toys until your baby realizes there’s a story inside!

**Here are some of our favorite board book authors:**

**April**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Rhythm and rhymes are fun and entertaining for your child, and can help him hear the individual sounds in words.

**Did you know:** April is National Poetry Month?

**Here are some titles** to get you started with rhyming and creating your own poetry:

**May**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Incorporate a silly song into daily routines! Nap time, clean up time, wake up time! This can help babies feel secure in their routines and also helps them hear individual sounds in words.

**Did you know**: May 22nd is Musical Instrument Day! Use a tambourine in your silly song!

**Here are some titles and CDs** in the library to help you and your child celebrate:

**June**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Open up that board book and talk about the pictures in it! This is how your baby learns the names of things. Point to these things, like dogs and cats, out in the real world too!

**Did you know:** In 2012, June was declared “Great Outdoors Month!” Spend lots of time outside with your child this month. Point out as many words in the real world as you can!

**July**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Reading out loud to your baby shows her you love her! Listening to you read gives your child the words she will eventually say!

We celebrate the **Fourth of July** this month! **Here are some titles** you and your child might like:

**August**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Parents build a solid foundation for future learning by simply rocking, cuddling, cooing and singing to their babies. Make up a special song just for your baby. Add their name into your song!

**September**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** The first thing your baby learns to read is your face. Be expressive when you talk and read! Your expressions help your child decipher the intent of your words!

What was your favorite book growing up? **Check it out at the library!**

**Here are some of our Favorite Books:**

**October**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Reading out loud to your baby helps establish a daily story time routine which can be continued throughout childhood!

**Here are some fun books to read in October:**

 **November**

 **Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Respond to the sounds your baby makes! Tell them about their surroundings. Talk to them about what you’re doing. Soon your baby will be babbling back!

**Did you know:** the first Saturday of the month is **Book Lover’s Day!** Spend some time at the library with your child!

We also celebrate **Thanksgiving** this month! **Here are some titles** to help you and your child celebrate:

**December**

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

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**Early Literacy Tip of the Month:** Reading out loud to your child helps strengthen emotional connections to family members!

We have lots to Celebrate in December! **Here are some Favorite Holiday Titles** for you and your child: