Spring is here!
Well... sort of.

Now is the time to get outside, plants some flowers, and add some fun reading activities to your daily routine. This newsletter has spring themed book suggestions, activities for your baby and toddler, and literacy tips for the month.

Book ideas!

Community Foundation of St. Joseph County has teamed up with Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library to provide any child in St. Joseph County, Indiana under the age of 5 with a free new book by mail each month. To register: https://imaginationlibrary.com/usa/affiliate/INSTJOS

EPH/
Describe but Don’t Drill

Parents are bombarded with advertisements for early child literacy programs, but what is the best way to assist your little one?

The NAEYC describes some key ways parents can help their children. Instead of using flash cards and other tools for rote memorization, young brains need rich vocabulary through everyday storytelling and listening to books and other materials being read aloud. The meaningful interactions throughout the day lead children to develop early literacy skills that will be used for life.

So try using rich vocabulary of new and interesting words to talk about something familiar. Or while reading your child’s favorite books let her fill in the familiar sounds or let him finish the familiar phrase or rhyme.

https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/toddlers-and-reading-describe-don%27t-drill

Kids’ Kitchen Korner

Ladybug Apples

You can have your kiddo help make this yummy snack for spring. Also, try adding a story book about the bugs in the yard.

You will need: apples, raisins, pretzels, and peanut butter

For more information, contact TWYB coordinator Kris Arizmendi at karizmen@nd.edu. Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/talkwithyourbaby.