Reading Recommendations for Kids Ages 3-5

Love by Matt De La Pena and Loren Long
Alma and How She Got Her Name by Juana Martinez-Neal
Our Food by Grace Lin and Ranida T. McNeally
The Family Book by Todd Parr
How Do Dinosaurs Eat Their Food? by Jane Yolen

Reserve these titles and more in our catalog.
Let’s Eat! Learn with Food

Food preparation is great for practicing new skills. Here are some tips to get the most out of your cooking time together:

- Let your child pick a recipe: Spokane Public Library has lots of great cookbooks for all ages.
- Give them a job! Preschoolers can do many activities in the kitchen: washing vegetables, adding measured ingredients to a recipe, stirring a mixing bowl, and more.
- It’s okay to make mistakes and messes!
- Books about food and eating are a great way to talk about food-related things with your preschooler: table manners, introducing new foods, and what people eat around the world.

Craft Activity: Cards & Letters for Family

Have your child choose family or friends to send art or a card to. Help them sign their name and show them how you address the envelope for mailing. Talk about the ways we stay in touch with people who may live far away.

Literacy Skills: Singing

Slowing words down into their smaller components helps with sounding them out when reading, and later when learning how to spell.

- Repetition is crucial, both for memory and for learning. Don’t be surprised if your kids want to sing or hear the same songs over and over!
- Lead by example to build confidence and skills.
- Songs can help with a preschooler’s routine – bedtime songs, clean-up songs, and other songs that signal transitions during the day. These can help your child mentally switch gears, give them something fun to focus on, and more.
- Discover some new children’s tunes! Check out the Library’s CD collection and streaming music on hoopla Kids to discover fresh music for your family.

Social-Emotional Skill: Family Time

Every family is different, and you can celebrate yours while learning about others. Here are some ideas for learning about families:

- Make a simple family tree together.
- Read books about families and point out differences in a positive way.
- Do you have any family traditions? Share them with your preschooer.
- Talk about names! Share with your child how they got their name and what your family names mean.