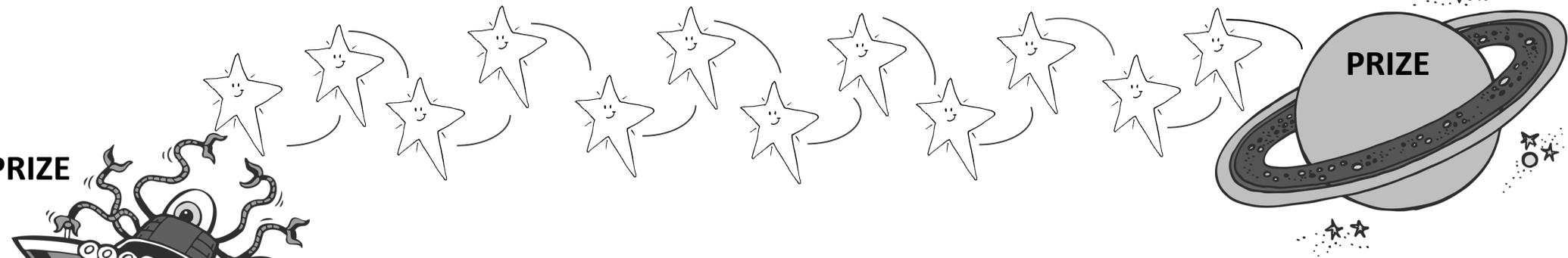
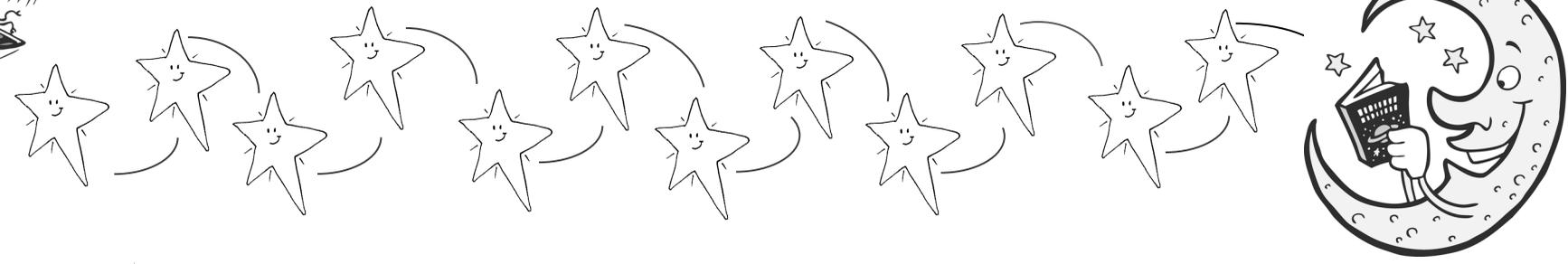


PRIZE

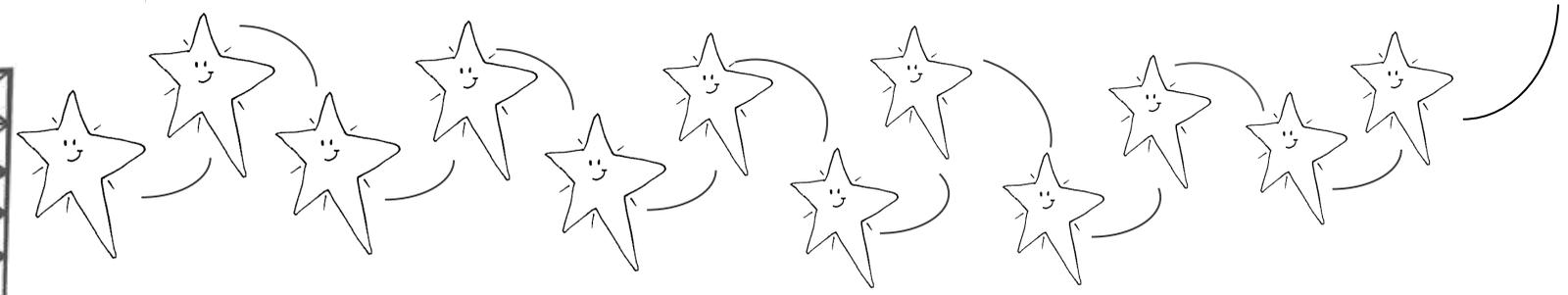
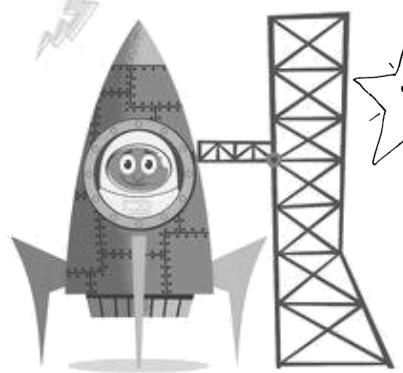


PRIZE



PRIZE

3... 2... 1... Liftoff!



**AGES:**  
0-35 mo.

This reading club is designed for parents and their babies ages 0-35 months. Every time you read a book or do an early literacy activity (examples are provided on the back page) color a star. When you reach a prize on your log, stop into the library to pick up your prize!

### What is Early Literacy and why is it important?

Early literacy does not mean early reading instruction or teaching babies to read; it is the natural development of skills through the enjoyment of books, the importance of positive interactions between babies and parents, and the critical role of literacy-rich experiences. *Research consistently demonstrates that the more children know about language and literacy before they begin formal schooling, the better equipped they are to succeed in reading.*

***So play with your child this summer! Use some of the examples of early literacy play on the back of this sheet or make up your own but have fun!***



**RUBBER DUCKY CLUB**  
BACON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

# THE SIX EARLY LITERACY SKILLS TO PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR READING

<p><b>Print Motivation</b></p> <p>A child’s interest in and enjoyment of books and reading.</p>	<p><b>Phonological Awareness</b></p> <p>The ability to hear and play with the smaller sounds in words.</p>	<p><b>Vocabulary</b></p> <p>Knowing the names of things, feelings, concepts, and ideas.</p>	<p><b>Narrative Skills</b></p> <p>Using expressive language to describe things, events, tell/re-tell stories.</p>	<p><b>Print Awareness</b></p> <p>Knowing that print has meaning, print is all around, how to handle a book, and following text.</p>	<p><b>Letter Knowledge</b></p> <p>Knowing that letters are different from each other, have names, and are related to sounds.</p>
<p><b>Babies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read books from birth.</li> <li>• Cuddle close and make reading a special time.</li> <li>• Read books with baby faces and high contrast black and white books.</li> <li>• Let baby play with books.</li> <li>• Talk about the pictures.</li> <li>• Sing or recite nursery rhymes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Toddlers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cuddle close and make reading a special time.</li> <li>• Talk about the pictures.</li> <li>• Sing or recite nursery rhymes.</li> <li>• Read everywhere.</li> <li>• Relate books to your child’s life.</li> <li>• Follow your child’s interests. Let your child choose books.</li> <li>• Let your child see you reading.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Babies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From 0-24 months simply focus on immersing your child in language and rhyme.</li> <li>• Make simple sounds and animal sounds. Speaking in “parentese” until babies are about 9 months old allows them to hear smaller sounds in words and is more appealing to infants than adult conversation.</li> <li>• Read animal sound books, song books, &amp; nursery rhyme books. Point to pictures as they’re mentioned in the book.</li> <li>• Singing “slows down” language and helps children hear smaller sounds in words because there’s usually a different note for each syllable. Clapping, tapping or stomping along helps little ones learn sounds in words and improve motor skills.</li> </ul> <p><b>Toddlers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read books with rhyming and repetitive text.</li> <li>• Sing books- many books can be sung to familiar tunes</li> <li>• Point out sounds you hear in environment</li> <li>• Sing nursery rhymes and songs and use movement to reinforce rhyme.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Babies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk and sing to your child as you go through the day.</li> <li>• Read board books and talk about the pictures.</li> <li>• Speak the language you know best.</li> </ul> <p><b>Toddlers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk with toddlers as they explore the world.</li> <li>• Let toddlers turn pages.</li> <li>• Read short stories, rhymes, and books that your child shows interest in.</li> <li>• Sing nursery rhymes and songs. This introduces new vocabulary not used in everyday speech.</li> <li>• Read a few minutes at a time when your child is in the mood. Stop if it’s no longer fun.</li> <li>• Keep reading when your child is on the move; let them return to the story when they’re ready.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Babies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk to your baby as you go through your day, telling him what you are doing.</li> <li>• Listen to your baby’s responses when you talk – it may be a sound, a wiggle, or an expression – and respond back.</li> <li>• Share nursery rhymes and bounces with a strong sequence. As you sing them over and over, she’s learning that certain sounds and actions can be anticipated.</li> </ul> <p><b>Toddlers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrate the day for your toddler, from the repetition of getting dressed to talking about what you are going to do later. For familiar activities, ask what comes next – “shoes or socks next? Can you hand me one?”</li> <li>• Read books with a simple plot in which something happens.</li> <li>• Read and re-read books that give your child a chance to participate by saying what’s coming next, lifting the flaps, or making animal noises.</li> <li>• Share simple wordless or nearly wordless books and encourage your child to help “read” the story.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Babies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Babies begin to understand how a book works by putting it in his or her mouth.</li> <li>• Allow your baby to play with board books, cloth books or plastic books just like any other toy.</li> <li>• Give your baby opportunities to turn pages.</li> </ul> <p><b>Toddlers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Point out and read print in your child’s environment.</li> </ul> <p>Make books together.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playfully, hold a book upside down or start reading from back to front. Let your toddler show you the correct way to read a book.</li> <li>• Read books that have a few simple words in large type (BEEP! BEEP!) or a repeated word (“moo, moo”) that you can point out to your child.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Babies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read and re-read bright, colorful board books.</li> <li>• Talk to them about their world all day long.</li> <li>• Let babies mouth books and toys. This is their first way of exploring shape.</li> </ul> <p><b>Toddlers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play with shape sorters, sorting shapes that are the same into groups.</li> <li>• Do simple puzzles to match shapes and to begin developing visual discrimination.</li> <li>• Point out shapes in the environment.</li> <li>• Point out the first letter in your child’s name.</li> </ul>