



New Brunswick
Nouveau Brunswick

Exploring Literacies

— Talk, Sing, Read, Create Through Play Every Day! —





Based on the New Brunswick Curriculum Framework
for Early Learning and Child Care ~ English

Introduction

*Did you know that play is the way children learn?
This means it's easy to help children learn about
their world – just play together!*

Talking, Singing, Reading, Creating,
Through Play, Everyday!

This booklet explores tips for healthy development and ways to support your child's learning through play. There are books you can read and ideas for learning and playing together.

Every child learns at their own pace. Try a variety of the activities to see what your child is ready to learn today.

Your child will learn best when you are having fun together.

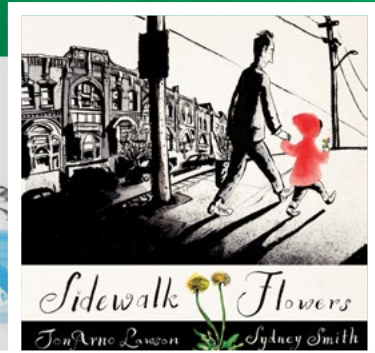
Enjoy!

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Tips to keep me Talking

- Listen to me when I talk to you even when I ask lots of questions.
- Count with me. Talk about shapes and colours with me.
- Talk with me about what we are doing and what will happen next.
- Ask me questions that begin with “What if,” “Why,” and “Tell me” – and give me time to answer.
- Tell me stories about your childhood and our family.
- Talk with me during my imaginative play – dress up, house, school.
- Let me hear you use language every day for a variety of reasons – what you show me is what I will learn.



Sidewalk Flowers
Author, John Arno Lawson

Wave
Author, Suzy Lee

Ten, Nine, Eight
Author, Molly Bang

Mirror
Author, Jeannie Baker

Truck
Author, Donald Crews



*“It’s easy to gather little toys
and household items and invite
your child to tell a story”*

Tips to keep me Singing

- Sing songs and recite rhymes with actions to expose me to new words and sounds.
- Sing and make up songs with me.
- Read books that sing, rhyme or chant.
- As an infant, I enjoy playful singing and rhyming games, like:
- Encourage me to join in singing and repeating of rhymes and poems together with you.
- Play with sounds with me by singing rhyming songs like “Willaby Wallaby” or “Apples and Bananas.”



*Willaby Wallaby Woo,
An Elephant sat on you.
Willaby Wallaby Wee,
An Elephant sat on me.*

*Willaby Wallaby Wash,
I'm feeling kinda squash.
Willaby Wallaby Woo,
And I don't know
what to do!*

Dennis Lee, 1974





Sing a Song of Mother Goose
Author, Barbara Reid

Singily Skipping Along
Author, Sheree Fitch

Barnyard Dance
Author, Sandra Boynton

Five Little Ducks
Author, Raffi &
Jose Aruego

Wheels on the Bus
Author, Raffi &
Sylvie Wickstrom



story by
Sheree Fitch

art by
Deanne Fitzpatrick



Tips to keep me **Reading**

- Invite me to repeat new and interesting words we see in books.
- Encourage me to read the things in my everyday environment. I quickly understand that logos and symbols have meaning.
- Talk with me about the pictures and ideas in the books we read together.
- Read with me every day.
- Have a variety of books available that I can easily reach at any time.
- Choose board books for me as an infant with textures, bright and striking colours, one word per page or short lines of poems or songs. As I get older, invite me to hold the book and turn the pages.
- Photo albums and wordless books allow me to read in the language of my choice and to imagine and make up different stories.
- Read books with pictures that look like me, our family and our neighbourhood.
- Point out the illustrations and invite me to tell the story by looking closely at the pictures.



Weska'qelmut Apje'juanu
 Author, Sheree Fitch

Hip, Hop (English/Arabic)
 Author, Catherine Hnativ
 Publisher, Star Bright Books

**Je t'aime de la
 tête aux pieds**
 Author, Bernadette
 Rossetti-Shustak

Pat the Bunny
 Author, Dorothy Kunhardt

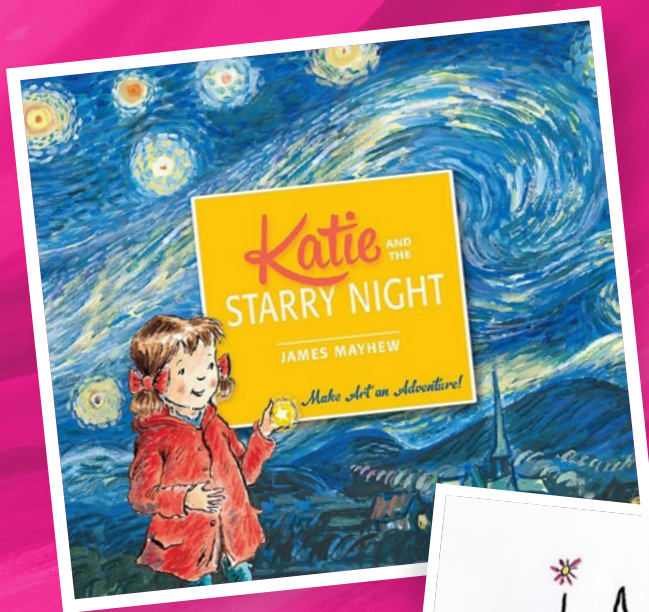
Black and White
 Author, Tana Hoban





Tips to keep me **Creating**

- Draw with me using a variety of tools – pencils, crayons, markers, chalk, paint brushes and paint.
- My mark-making and drawing have meaning. My scribbles, lines and circles become letters, words and sentences. Ask me to tell you about my drawings and mark-making (“Wow! Look at those colours,” or “Tell me about your picture”).
- Have crayons, pencils, markers and lots of plain paper around that I can easily reach.
- Give me lots of chances to create stories through playing, talking, mark-making dancing, singing, building, performing, painting, counting and storytelling.
- Point out household logos, like cereal boxes, and popular child logos like Spiderman.
- Help me read and create the signs we see in our neighbourhood – STOP, WALK, Main Street, Corner Store.
- Give me tools and encouragement for mark-making indoors and out.



Katie and the Starry Night
Author, James Mayhew

Ish
Author, Peter Reynolds

Chalk
Author, Bill Thompson
(Amazon)

The Black Book of Colours
Author, Menina Cottin

Mi'kMaw Animals
Author, Alan Syliboy

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Tips to keep us

Exploring Literacies

- Recognize that my literacies develop in the home during all routine activities: I am always learning!
- Through play, I realize that one thing can represent another, helping me understand that written words can also represent real objects and experiences.
- Count everything with me – fingers, toes, cars, trucks, friends, and items in the grocery store.
- Participate with me in activities in our community. Make library visits routine, attend Talk with Me or Family & Early Childhood Programs, or visit a local Family Resource Centre.
- Model reading and writing with me by creating grocery lists together or reading recipes or menus together.
- Show me my name. Display my name in various places, and provide me with real opportunities to write my name (birthday cards for friends and family, on my own art work, etc.).



*“It’s as easy as blank paper,
some markers, crayons, or
pencils and a great book.”*

Stick and Stone
Author, Beth Ferry

**Everybody’s Different
on Everybody Street**
Author, Sheree Fitch

Last Stop on Market Street
Author, Matt de la Peña

**Mommy, Mama and Me
& Daddy, Papa and Me**
Author, Leslea Newman

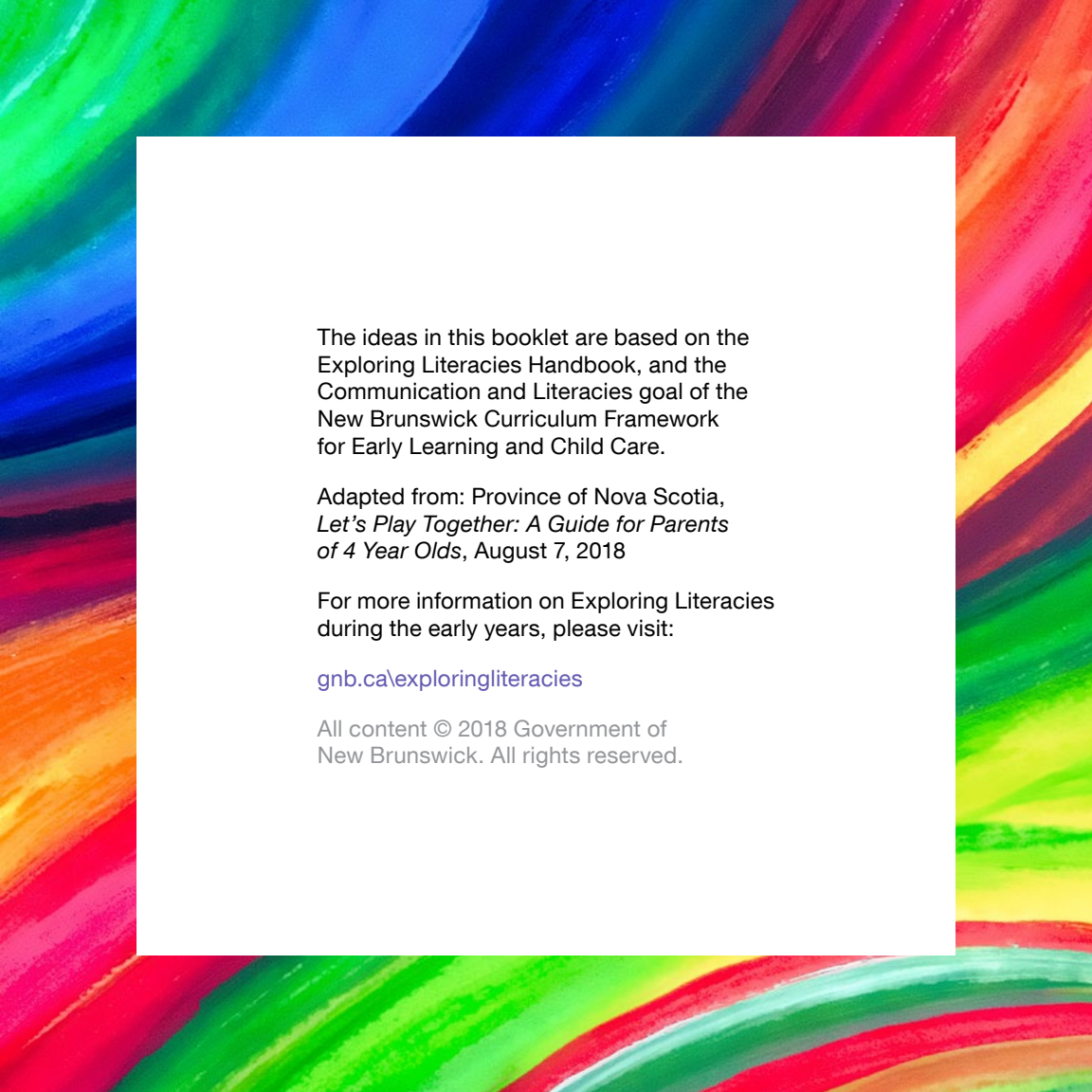
Red: A Crayon Story
Author, Michael Hall

Susan Laughs
Author, Jeanne Willis

Children explore literacies through their relationships and interactions with the environments and people around them.

As you try some of these ideas each day, your child will build the skills to help them learn and develop. But more importantly, you will have fun together!

Let's explore literacies together through talking, singing, reading and creating through a variety of play experiences everyday!



The ideas in this booklet are based on the Exploring Literacies Handbook, and the Communication and Literacies goal of the New Brunswick Curriculum Framework for Early Learning and Child Care.

Adapted from: Province of Nova Scotia,
*Let's Play Together: A Guide for Parents
of 4 Year Olds*, August 7, 2018

For more information on Exploring Literacies during the early years, please visit:

gnb.ca/exploringliteracies

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COMMUNICATION · IMAGINATION · COMPASSION AND CARING · LIVING DEMOCRATICALLY · AESTHETICS · SPIRITUALITY · ZEST FOR
LEARNING · INDEPENDENCE · CREATIVITY AND PLAY · IMAGINATION, CREATIVITY &
BUSINESS AND EQUITY · SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY · COMMUNICATION · INDIVIDUALITY



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