



### Early Literacy Extras:

Parents and caregivers are a child's first and best teachers. Here are some ideas and activities to try this week with your child. These five practices are designed to help your child develop literacy skills, engage your child, and enhance the bonds between you. Storytimes at the Adams County Library support Pennsylvania Early Learning Standards.

This week's theme is: **Gardens**

**Read:** *Up in the Garden Down in the Dirt* by Kate Messner. Watch the author read the story! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lg7hkj0Vita>

**Talk:** Talk about the different things you can find in a garden. Talk about the plants that live there and the insects that crawl throughout. To learn more, access children's online non-fiction books on our eLibrary through our homepage or by using your library card to access PowerKids through [www.powerlibrary.org](http://www.powerlibrary.org)

You can also help your child plan their own garden through the University of Illinois <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/firstgarden/>

**Sing:** Rhymes to do at Home

**Play:** Take Kate's challenge and go outside and dig in the dirt. Play in a garden if you have one. Play the garden bingo on the other page while you're down in the dirt.

**Write:** Take a blank piece of paper and have your child design what their garden would look like. Show where everything would go and who lives there.

### Rhymes to do at Home

#### Be a Seed

Be a seed, small and round (cup both hands to make a circle)  
Sprout, Sprout, Sprout up from the ground (start from down low and raise your arms above your head)  
Shake your leaves for all to see (shake your arms, head, your whole body!)  
Stretch your arms up, you're a tree!  
(Stretch your arms as high as you can)

#### Five Flowers Tall







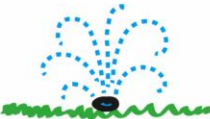


















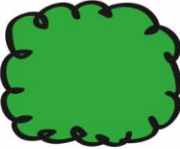



*(Sung to: Five Little Ducks)*

Five flowers tall in the flower shop, *(hold up hand with five fingers standing tall)*  
Blooming brightly, with the petals at the top.

Along came \_\_\_\_ *(name a child)* with a dollar one day,  
Bought a \_\_\_\_ *(child names a color)* flower and took it away. *(put one finger down)*

*Repeat for the remaining four fingers.*



				
				
HILL	SPRINKLER	FENCE	SMALL LEAVES	STICK
				
BIRD	LEAF	WHITE FLOWER	FLY	ROCK
				
GRASS	LEAVES ON STICK	FREE	BALL	ANT
				
CLOUD	FLOWER POT	BUTTERFLY	YELLOW FLOWER	SUN
				
LADYBUG	BUSH	PINK FLOWER	TREE	DIRT