



### 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 was: **Animals in Winter**

**Read:** Watch Miss Emily read *Squirrels on Skis* by J. Hamilton Ray on our Youth Services Facebook page or YouTube Channel.

**Talk:** Having your child retell a story is one way to help them understand the story. However, sometimes retelling the whole story can be hard. Talk through the story together and make sure to tell it in the right order!

**Sing:** Rhymes to do at Home

**Play:** Grab a bowl of nuts, a muffin tin, and some fine motor tools like spoons, tongs, and scoops. Scoop and move the nuts into the tin. To take this from a fine motor activity to a counting activity for older kids, simple add some slips of paper with a number written on them to the individual muffin spots.

**Write:** At one point, there are more than 85 squirrels on skis! Try to count to 85 with your child. Then, have them draw what they think 85 squirrels on skis looks like.

### Rhymes to do at Home

#### Five Little Squirrels

(Tune: Five Little Ducks)

1 little squirrel went out to play  
Up in the hills one winter day.  
He had such enormous fun,  
he called for another little squirrel to  
come.

2...

3...

4...

5 little squirrels went out to play  
up in the hills one chilly day.  
They had such enormous fun,  
Then they all scurried home 'cause  
Spring had come.

#### The Frisky little Squirrel

(Tune: The Noble Duke of York)

The frisky little squirrel  
He gathers nuts and seeds.  
He hides them for the winter months  
So he'll have all he needs.

Refrain:

Oh, up-up-up he goes  
And down-down-down he comes.  
He runs around - goes up and down.  
His work is never done. (repeat refrain)