



### 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: **Dinosaurs**

**Read:** Watch Miss Emily read *I Dreamt I Was a Dinosaur* by Stella Blackstone on our Youth Services Facebook page.

**Talk:** Everybody knows at least one little one who can rattle off the names of dozens of dinosaurs. There's a reason for that! Young brains are wired to learn as much vocabulary as possible. So don't underestimate them: give them all the words you can! Use the most specific terms possible and they will soak them up like a sponge.

**Sing:** Rhymes To Do At Home

**Play:** Make a sensory game with things that start with the letter "D". In a big bowl or tub, pour rice, beans, or water and a couple of toys that start with the letter "D". Don't forget the dinosaurs!

**Write:** Follow the directions on the next page to make your own trace fossil.

### Rhymes To Do At Home

#### Giddy Up Dinosaur

Giddy-up, giddy-up, giddy-up dinosaur. (*bounce child on knees*)  
Giddy-up, giddy-up, go, go, go.  
Giddy-up, giddy-up, giddy-up dinosaur.  
Giddy-up, giddy-up, Whoa! (*let child slip through knees*)

#### One Dinosaur Went Out to Play

(*tune: 5 Little Ducks Went Out One Day*)

One dinosaur went out to play  
On a giant fern one day  
She had such enormous fun  
That she called for another dinosaur to  
come:

Raise hands to cup mouth, and call loudly:  
Oh, Diiiiiiiiinosaur!  
Slap hands on thighs to make "running"  
sounds.

Two dinosaurs went out to play...

Three dinosaurs...

Four dinosaurs...

Five dinosaurs went out to play

On a giant fern one day  
They had such enormous fun  
That they played until the day was done!



Trace fossils are signs of their existence left behind by living organisms that are not actually part of the organism, things like footprints, trails, burrows, nests, imprints and impressions, etc.

1. Mix a ball of salt dough about the size of a golf ball or slightly larger and knead until smooth. (Salt dough: 2 C flour, 1 C salt, 1 C water. Makes enough for 10.)

2. Flatten until about 1/4" thick.

3. Use various objects to make impressions. Dinosaur toys, other toys, or even their hands.

5. Place on a cookie sheet and bake at 250°F for about 1-1/2 hours, then let cool. Now your traces are preserved in "stone", just like a real trace fossil!

