



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: **Strawberries**

Read: Watch Miss Emily read *The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear* by Don Wood on our Youth Services Facebook page.

Talk: The little mouse and the big hungry bear both love strawberries. Talk with your child about food you both like to eat, or don't like to eat. Use descriptive language to describe your favorite food. (Example): *I love bananas! They taste and smell sweet. If I squeeze a banana in my hand, it feels squishy. I have to peel it to eat it, and the peel is my favorite color, yellow.* If they are younger, let them play with some fruit while talking about it. Use the descriptive language used above.

Sing: Rhymes to do at Home

Play: In this story, the mouse and the strawberry both wear a silly disguise. Set your imagination free by playing dress-up with your child! Use old clothes, costumes, or recyclables around the house to create a unique disguise. For the younger ones, do the finger plays with the rhymes.

Write: Have your child color the strawberry on the next page. Have them color the black seeds that are on the outside of a strawberry.

Rhymes to do at Home

Picked a Strawberry

(Tune: Clementine)

Picked a strawberry, picked a strawberry (Pretend to pick strawberries)
That was growing in the sun. (Arch your hands over your head)
Then I washed it, and I ate it, (pretend to wash and then eat your yummy strawberries)
And I picked another one.

Let your child pick other berries to pick and eat!

All Around the Strawberry Fields

(Tune: Pop Goes the Weasel)

If they are old enough, have your child start this song in a crouch to jump up at the end.

All around the strawberry fields,
We picked some juicy strawberries
(pretend to pick your strawberries)
We brought them home and washed them off, (pretend to wash your berries)
Pop! Go the berries! (have kids jump up on "pop" or lightly toss them up)

Let your child pick other berries to pick and eat!

