

The 3bythree grid

Aim to achieve each of the activities in the grid by the time your child turns three years. These activities will develop early literacy skills, grow the bond between parent/caregiver and child and build connection to your local community.

Visit a local playground	Use your new membership card to borrow	Visit the Unley Toy Library
Watch a Storytime Online	Attend Babytime or Wriggletime	Get active in Unley
Make a craft with your child	Visit the Unley Swimming Centre	Have someone read to you

Books and reading

(Use your membership card to borrow, watch a Storytime, have someone read to you)

Sharing books and stories and reading with children helps to build language skills, literacy, imagination, and brain development. Young children may not be reading yet, but sharing books helps them build pre-literacy skills, such as knowing what a book is, how to turn pages, recognising words, and building a love of reading. When reading with your child, point to the words as you read, ask questions, relate things in the story to things they know, such as a toy, or pet.

Not sure what books are best? Library staff are specialists in helping choose books and always happy to provide a recommendation or help you with selection.

Songs and rhymes

(Watch a Storytime online, attend Babytime or Wriggletime)

Songs and rhymes are an important part of early literacy learning. Repetition, rhythm and rhyme all help children develop language and literacy skills, providing a foundation for future learning. They allow your child to hear words, learn to recognise them, and to distinguish different sounds that make up language. They're also fun, which increases the child's enjoyment of learning.

Not sure what songs or rhymes to use? Check out the Libraries' collection, attend a Babytime, Wriggletime or Storytime program to learn new songs, or browse the Unley Libraries Spotify collections.

Play

(Visit the Unley Toy Libraries, visit a local playground, make a craft with your child, visit the Unley Swimming Centre, get active in Unley)

Play is essential to a child's development and central to how they learn. It helps them to explore their environment and experiment with the things around them - all of which help create neural pathways and connections in their brain which are important for learning.

Interacting with toys, crafts and their environment helps children develop motor skills, spatial awareness and creativity.

Outside play is important not only for creating pathways and connections in the brain, but also for creating a love of the outdoors and nature, increasing health and wellbeing.

The Unley Toy Libraries has a carefully curated selection of toys to help with child development - plus, borrowing toys helps reduce landfill!

Visit our website at unley.sa.gov.au/librarykids to discover both our in-person and online programs.