

## Raising Readers: What Parents Can Do

Learning to read takes practice. Loving to read takes enthusiasm. Parents can create a sense of enjoyment, wonder, and a passion for reading within their child. Below are a few things that can be done at home to create readers.

1. **Read together every day.** This can be at breakfast reading the morning news, sharing a story in the evening, or reading a book at bedtime,. A daily reading routine creates a reading habit and excitement for reading.
2. **Talk and build vocabulary.** Having interesting conversations with your child builds vocabulary, language skills, and knowledge about the world.
3. **Point out print.** Read and talk about the words around you—signs, recipes, cereal boxes, instruction manuals, schedules, news, maps, menus and much more.
4. **Visit the library.** Take advantage of all the books, materials, story times, programs, and resources in the library.
5. **Be an active reader.** Use expressive voices for characters, make sound effects, and point things out in the text and illustrations to make reading fun.
6. **Ask questions when you read.** Ask open ended questions while reading about the story such as 'What comes next?', 'what is going on in the picture?', or 'what clues tells you what is going to happen?'
7. **Try different approaches to reading** such as having them read to you, act out a favorite part of a story, take turns reading, read outside during nice weather. You can make reading more memorable and create long lasting memories through reading.

**Reading is an important skill for life but it can also be enjoyable and a life long joy.** (nea.org)

## Strategies for Improving Math Skills

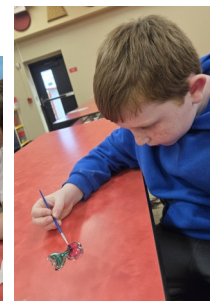
At times Math can seem overwhelming for students. You can do some activities to enrich and relate to math in every day life. Below are some strategies that you can help improve your child's math skills without being a whiz at Math yourself.

1. **General Math:** compare prices (which costs the most, how much more), read the days, dates, and number of days left on the calendar, let your child count out change to buy something.
2. **Computation:** Count orally by 2's, 5's, 10's, Complete connect-the-dot pictures, count objects and determine if there's an odd or even number, Give your child verbal math problems such as take 5 and add 6. multiply by 2, etc.
3. **Geometry:** Look for different shapes (circles, triangles, squares & rectangles) and identify them, fold paper or napkins in different shapes, Use items to construct shapes
4. **Measurement:** Let your child help measure ingredients, weigh fresh produce when shopping, measure objects in length, height. Use vocabulary such as wider, heaviest, less, more, etc.
5. **Problem Solving:** Encourage solving answers to real-life situations—we have 1 can of pop, how many more do we need to have one for everyone in the family?, 7 children share 49 pieces of candy. How many does each get?

**With your help, encouragement, and practice your child will become comfortable with math and succeed.** (<https://www.nwea.org/>)

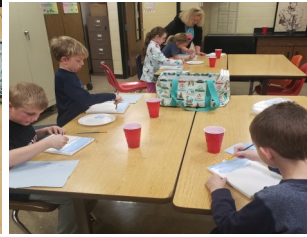
## Suncatcher Craft

LIL Cats enjoy doing crafts and making things to take home. This weeks craft the students can learn by watching how light travels through object. They painted suncatchers to hang in their windows at home.



## LIL Cats Painting Activity

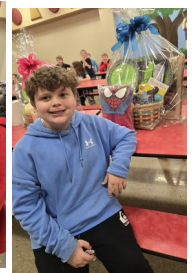
Students are honing their skills of painting. The LIL Cats are using a canvas for their picture. They are learning how to blend colors, shade objects to show depth and the direction of light, and how to create a background producing some great pictures. Miss Karen donated all the canvases, paints, brushes and her knowledge and love of painting. A big THANK YOU, MISS KAREN.



## Easter Activities

The LIL Cats held an Easter Egg hunt the last week of the afterschool program. Due to the poor weather conditions, students hunted for candy filled easter eggs. All Students also received an Easter Egg Tic-Tac-Toe board and markers. After the egg hunt, LIL Cats students that had a 30 day or more attendance in the program participated in a drawing for 3 Easter baskets. The winners were Orianna Weatherford, Owin Keefer, and Caleb Waugh.

**Congratulations!!**



## KONA ICE

To celebrate the end of another great year of LIL Cats, Kona Ice visited and everyone enjoyed their favorite treat.



## Food Science Activities

The students really enjoy the Food Science activity! They are involved in the entire process: reading recipes, measuring ingredients, mixing and stirring. They love to see the process of mixing all the ingredients turning into something they love to eat. These pictures represent just a few of the food science activities that they enjoyed this year. They made Gummy Bears and Peanut Butter cookies. Miss Emily and Mr. Stephens donated the cookie mixes. LIL Cats are blessed to have wonderful supporters for their program. A BIG THANK YOU.

