

Llama Llama Loves to Read

The 2019 CLEL Bell Award Book for READ



by Anna Dewdney and Reed Duncan, illustrated by JT Morrow
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While at school, Llama Llama begins to learn how letters make words, how words become sentences and finally how sentences become books. After a day of reading, writing, singing and even a trip to the library, Llama Llama shares his new reading skills with Mama as they walk home. Just like Llama Llama, children must master many individual skills to become good readers.

Activity Ideas for *Llama Llama Loves to Read*:

- In the book, Llama Llama and Mama are walking down the street when they notice letters and words around town. Choose one letter a day. Draw the letter for your child, and let them trace it with their finger, trace it with a crayon, or write it themselves on a card. Talk about the name of the letter, its shape, and what sound it makes. Take the card with you when you go out! How many places can you find your letter? Does it look the same or different than on your card? Children who know the names, shapes, and sounds of each letter are better prepared to learn to read.
- When Llama Llama and his friends go to the library, they read stories about princesses, pirates, knights, and explorers. The next time you go to the library, ask your child if they want to find a stories like these, too? What else does your child want to read about? Ask a librarian for help finding just the right books! Letting children read about the things they are interested in helps motivate them to become readers themselves. This motivation is important because learning to read is hard work.
- Use glue sticks and materials such as sand, rice, or glitter to make touch-and-feel words. Use a pencil or marker to write out the letters of your child's name on a big piece of paper. Let your child trace the letters with the glue stick, then add the sand, rice, or glitter to make touchable word art. What other names or words can you create? Learning that letters combine in different ways to make different words is an essential pre-reading skill.

The CLEL Bell Picture Book Awards are given to books that provide excellent support of early literacy development in young children. For more information and for other activity sheets, visit <http://www.clel.org> and select the CLEL Bell Awards tab.



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