

**Disclaimer: Activities with children must always be risk assessed, including for allergies or choking. Children must always have adequate supervision. Resources and materials must always be appropriate for children's age and stage of development.**

## Top tips: Using your local library

**Local libraries can be magical places of discovery, a place that can bring exciting adventures and memorable moments as children immerse themselves in a wide range of available books.**

Review our top tips for developing children's love of literacy through visiting your local community library.

1. Plan a trip to the library, following your policies and procedures for outdoor excursions. Contact the library and speak to the librarian about bringing a group of children to the library and ask if they can provide a tour and show the children the process of taking a book out
2. Explore the children's book section together, draw children's attention to the different types of books available linked to their interests, e.g. fiction and non-fiction books
3. Provide lots of time to enable children to explore fully, reading stories, looking at a range of books or sharing books with friends
4. Adults should move around the children's section inviting children to talk about the books they are looking at and enjoying. Read stories together in one-to-one or small groups
5. Invite children to choose a number of books to borrow from the library
6. You may wish to encourage children to find books linked to a current topic, or special occasion that you can take back to the setting to support children's learning
7. Ensure children are included in a trip to return the library books so that they see the whole process from start to end
8. Ask the librarian about any free services they offer, for example, rhyme time or story time sessions for children. Share this information with parents so they can take their children along to the sessions.



### NDNA products to support you with these tips:

- Online course - [Vocabulary and Early Language Skills](#)
- Online programme – [Communication and Language Champions](#).

**And more resources at [www.ndna.org.uk/hub/myndna](http://www.ndna.org.uk/hub/myndna)**