Storytime at Home
Our Wonderful Earth

The world we live on is amazing, and your child will have such a wonderful time discovering it. Celebrate our only home on Earth Day and Arbor Day. Each book is available online and can be accessed on a computer or device. Bonus points if you have one or two at home! Enrich the experience by doing the activities and singing the songs. Songs without a well-known tune have a link to a video to help.

READ
(Overdrive: You will need a Gretna barcode and your phone number to log in. Please return Overdrive books promptly so others can enjoy them.)

Earthrise by James Gladstone (TumbleBooks)
A Whale’s World by Nicholas Read (TumbleBooks)
Wild Ideas by Elin Kelsey (TumbleBooks)
Miss Maple’s Seeds by Eliza Wheeler (Brightly Storytime)
The Watcher by Jeanette Winter (Overdrive)
What Does It Mean to Be Green? by Rana DiOrio (Overdrive)
Over and Under the Pond by Kate Messner (Overdrive)
Home Sweet Tree by Mary Elizabeth Salzmann (Abdo Digital)

WRITE & TALK
Go for a nature walk! Keep an eye out for trees, plants, animals, and rocks. Talk about the different types of each that you see (How is this evergreen tree different from that maple tree?). When you get home, have your child draw pictures of the things you saw on your walk. Help them write labels, or write what they dictate.
**SING & PLAY**

**Color Rhyme**

Blue is the lake,
(point to the floor)
Yellow is the sun,
(point to the sky)
Silver are the stars
    when the day is done,
(wiggle fingers in the air)
Red is the apple,
(make circle with hands)
Green is the tree,
(raise arms over head like branches)
Brown is a cookie for
    you and me. Yum!
(rub tummy)

**I’m a Little Pinecone**
(to the tune of “I’m a Little Teapot”)

I’m a little pinecone, brown and small.
(crouch down small, or show small with two fingers)
I live in a pine tree, oh so tall.
(stretch high with arms overhead like branches)
When the cold wind blows
    I dance and hop –
(dance and hop)
Down to the ground with a
    PLOP, PLOP, PLOP!
(drop to the ground, landing cross-legged)

**Mmm Ahh Went the Little Green Frog**
(YouTube)

Mmm ahh went the little green frog one day.
Mmm ahh went the little green frog.
Mmm ahh went the little green frog one day.
And they all went mmm, mmm, ahh.
But...
We know frogs go (clap) sha-na-na-na-na-na,
(clap) sha-na-na-na-na-na,
(clap) sha-na-na-na-na-na.
We know frogs go (clap) sha-na-na-na-na-na.
They don't go mmm mmm ahh.

**Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star**

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
How I wonder what you are,
Up above the world so high,
Like a diamond in the sky.
Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
How I wonder what you are.

(Trying doing the actions but only singing the song in your head. This is called audiating and is an important first step in a child’s music education.)

**Other Verses:**

—Bloop, bloop / little blue fish /
    kissy, kissy, kiss
—Grr, grr / big brown bear /
    huggy, huggy, hug
—Slow, slow / little green turtle /
    Cowabunga Dude!
—Hoot, hoot / little brown owl /
    la de la de la

Make up your own!