

## Suggestions for using *Baby Loves Spring*

- Distribute copies of the books to parents and caregivers. Ask the adults to hold their children in their laps and follow along as you read the book aloud. Encourage the adults to join you in choral reading at key points of the story, (repetitive phrases, point out colors, names of animals, etc.).
- Point out ways that this book builds early literacy skills:
  - **Read together** – Babies and toddlers love looking at illustrations of other babies. Encourage the parents/caregivers to have fun looking at the pictures of the babies in this book. If babies are able, encourage them to hold the book and turn pages. This builds print motivation, a child's interest in and enjoyment of books.
  - **Sing together** – Sing *Rain, Rain, Go Away*. When we sing with young children they hear that words are made up of different sounds. This builds phonological awareness.
  - **Write together** – Run your fingers on the words as you read this book and encourage your baby to do so, too. This helps build the fine motor skills that are essential for writing. Provide chunky crayons and paper for scribbling.
  - **Play together** – Act out the activity in this book. Active bodies are essential for healthy brains.
  - **Talk together** – Talking with your babies and young children helps them know that they are precious and loved. It helps them learn that we communicate through language and words.
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- Literacy handouts for parents and caregivers are available on the SCLS early literacy page at: <http://www.scls.info/ys/earlyliteracy/index.html>
- Please share your ideas for using *Baby Loves Spring*. Write up a description of your program and place a copy in this folder.

Please return this sheet to the guidelines folder – you are welcome to make copies for your files or to share with others  
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***Baby Loves Spring***  
**SCLS Board Book Kit Contents**

(Return folder with kit to delivery - ZZZ)

Please make sure that the following items are returned to the Board Book Kit:

1. 20 copies of ***Baby Loves Spring*** (board books are numbered)
2. Guidelines folder, containing:
  - a. Suggestions for using ***Baby Loves Spring*** Copy of “Early literacy begins with you” handout. You are welcome to copy this sheet and distribute it to parents and caregivers. An editable copy of this handout is available at:  
<http://www.scls.info/ys/earlyliteracy/handouts/Earlyliteracybeginswithyou.docx>

You are welcome to make copies of items in the guidelines folder for your files.

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