Authors for Ages 3-5:

- Jon Agee
- Karen Beaumont
- Daniel Bernstrom
- Kelly DiPucchio
- Susan Middleton Elya
- Kevin Henkes
- Keiko Kasza
- Eric Litwin
- Kadir Nelson
- Todd Parr
- Amy Krouse Rosenthal
- Dan Santat
- Jan Thomas
- David Wiesner
- Mo Willems
- Karma Wilson

Branch Locations & Phone Numbers

**AUGUSTA BRANCH**
198 Jackson St, Augusta
(636) 228-4855

**BOONE’S TRAIL BRANCH**
#10 Fiddlecreek Plaza, New Melle
(636) 398-6200

**CORPORATE PARKWAY BRANCH**
1200 Corporate Pkwy, Wentzville
(636) 332-8280

**DEER RUN BRANCH**
1300 North Main, O’Fallon
(636) 978-3251

**LIBRARY EXPRESS at DISCOVERY VILLAGE**
378 Shadow Pines Drive, Wentzville
(636) 332-6476

**KATHRYN LINNEMANN BRANCH**
2323 Elm Street, St. Charles
(636) 946-6294

**KISKER ROAD BRANCH**
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(636) 926-7323

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(636) 561-3385

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(636) 978-7926

**PORTAGE DES SIOUX BRANCH**
1825 Commonfield Rd, Portage Des Sioux
(636) 753-3070

**SPENCER ROAD BRANCH**
427 Spencer Road, St. Peters
(636) 441-0522

**MIDDENDORF-KREDELL BRANCH**
2750 Hwy. K, O’Fallon 63368
(636) 978-7926
5 FUNDAMENTAL SKILLS

Here are some tips & activities to incorporate these skills into your daily routines.

READ
Reading together is the most important thing you can do to develop early literacy skills

• Keep reading fun! Let your child pick out books to read!
• Read books with simple rhymes or predictable stories that your child can “help” you read.
• Let your child see you and other family members reading.
• Use expression in your voice and point to words as you read.

WRITE
Understanding writing means knowing that written words express ideas and events

• Allow your child to scribble and draw on unlined paper.
• Encourage your child to write their name, sign cards, autograph artwork, etc.
• Let your child use scissors and glue to build muscles and coordination in their hands.
• Point out shapes and letters when you are out. Help your child recognize the letter that begins their name.

TALK
Conversations teach a child new words and how to express ideas

• Ask your child open-ended questions and allow plenty of time for them to answer.
• Relate books to your life. Talk about things seen throughout the day, connecting them back to the books you have read.
• Use new words when you talk. Take time to explain new ideas or words.
• Before reading a book, look at the cover. Ask your child what they think will happen in the story based on the cover. Try this with other pictures or posters you might see.

SING
Singing breaks down words into distinct sounds and syllables

• Sing! Don’t worry about your singing voice! Your children love your voice!
• Change favorite songs by singing fast or slow, high or low.
• Look for songs that are interactive. Clap and dance with music to build motor skills. Clapping also helps to hear syllables.
• Play rhyming games. How many words can you rhyme with hat? Take turns until you run out of ideas, then move on to a new word.

PLAY
Playing allows children the opportunity to express themselves and their ideas

• Pretend! This is one of the best ways for children to begin telling stories. Encourage storytelling by asking what happens first, next, and last.
• Let your child build with blocks, blankets, and pillows. Ask questions about what your child builds.
• Take your play outside! Explore your neighborhood or go enjoy a storybook walk.
• Go to the Library. Each Library has different stations for playing.

PREPARE YOUR CHILD TO BE A SUCCESSFUL READER