



**SCOTT COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM...
SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING
LIFELONG LEARNING AND
THE DESIRE TO READ**

Smart Play Spot

The Shakopee Library's Smart Play Spot is a museum-quality installation designed collaboratively by the Scott County Library System with the Minnesota Children's Museum, who built and installed the elements. It is free and open to the public during the library's open hours.

Talking | **Singing** | **Reading** | **Writing** | **Playing**

The library is proud to host this unique space for local children to develop early childhood literacy and learning through purposeful play with their adults.

The highly interactive installation reflects the rich historic and cultural heritage of Shakopee with a 19th-century downtown, steam train, canoe, garden, and tree that is home to several Minnesota animal puppets.

Imaginative hands-on activities and literacy messages help prepare young children for reading and promote critical thinking and problem solving skills.

Shakopee Library

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- Rahr Malting Co.**
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community**
- Shakopee Friends of the Library**
- Minnesota Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund**
- Pablo's Mexican Restaurant**
- Paragon Bank**
- Sam's Club**
- Shakopee Heritage Society**
- Shakopee Jaycees**
- Shakopee Lions**
- Shakopee Public Utilities Commission**
- Shakopee Rotary Club**



Smart Play Spot

at the Shakopee Library



Talking | **Singing** | **Reading** | **Writing** | **Playing**



Early Literacy is what young children know about reading and writing *before* they can actually read & write. The five simple practices of Talking, Singing, Reading, Writing & Playing help children develop early literacy skills...

WELCOME TO THE LIBRARY!

At the library...

I stay close to **my adult**,

I use my **indoor voice**,

I am **gentle** with the books and equipment,

I stay safe by **walking**, not running,

I **put away** books and games when I am done.

At the library's **Smart Play Spot** you can **talk** about a canoe trip, **sing** the train song, **read** in the tree hideaway, **write** your name in the schoolhouse and **play** in the shops and garden...**together!**



Children learn about language by listening and talking. Talk during play, daily routines, anything you do with your child.



Children who enjoy being read to are more likely to enjoy reading themselves, increasing their likelihood of success in school.

Songs slow down language so children can hear the different sounds that make up words and learn the rhythm and rhyme of language.



Give your children many opportunities to scribble, write and draw. By writing they learn that printed letters and words have sounds and meaning.



Children develop language skills by interacting with others and their physical surroundings. They benefit even more when parents and caregivers play too, helping make up a story or engineer new worlds through creative play.