Read *Finders Keepers* by Keiko Kasza, a story about a squirrel who uses his hat to mark the spot where he buried an acorn. Other creatures find and have their own uses for the hat.

Draw a picture of an animal and their use of the hat. Write what children tell you about their picture to illustrate that print has meaning.

Discuss the meaning of finders keepers and which found items children can keep and which should be returned. This provides children with background knowledge about ownership.

**See the Squirrels** *(Tune: Frère Jacques)*

See the squirrels, / see the squirrels, / climb the tree, / climb the tree, / hiding nuts for winter, / hiding nuts for winter, / in the tree, / in the tree.

Collect a variety of hats and an acorn.
Take turns hiding the acorn under a hat and guessing where it is.

*Early literacy practice for children ages 3-5.*
*Find these and other tips at [www.earlylit.net](http://www.earlylit.net).*

Explore Early Literacy Practices: Read, write, talk, sing and play with children every day! When you engage in these practices regularly, you help young children develop essential early literacy skills that prepare them for reading and learning.

See other early literacy resources at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library).