Read *We’ve All Got Bellybuttons!* by David Martin. This story is about various animals and what their different body parts can do, including their tickly belly buttons.

Help children make a drawing of themselves (scribbling is writing) and label the body parts. This illustrates that print is useful.

Make the sounds that the animals in the story make. This lays the foundation for hearing sounds for children and will help them sound out words when they learn to read.

Here Are Baby’s Fingers Chant
Here are baby’s fingers / here are baby’s toes / here is baby’s bellybutton / round and around it goes (*tickle belly button*)

Gather some jungle animal figures or puppets and reenact the story.

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).

Find these and other tips at [www.earlylit.net](http://www.earlylit.net).