Mengle Memorial Library
presents:

Big Red Barn by Margaret Wise Brown

The sense of rhythm obtained from listening to songs and rhymes will help your child to identify patterns, like rhyming words, which will help them learn to read. Because songs automatically break down words into smaller sounds through tones, singing with your child is one of the best ways to develop early literacy skills.

Help your child think of words that rhyme with the names of farm animals like “pig” (big, wig, dig) and “Cow” (now, how, plow) and the sounds they make “moo” (boo, glue, shoe) – make up silly rhymes with these words.

Sing familiar songs about the farm such as “Baa Baa Black Sheep,” “BINGO,” “Mary Had a Little Lamb” and “Old Macdonald.”

Books about Farms!
- The runaway tractor by Heather Amery
- Big Red Barn by Margaret Wise Brown
- Mrs. Wishy-Washy's Farm by Joy Cowley
- Counting Farm by Kathy Henderson
- When the Rooster Crowed by Patricia Lille
- The Farmer in the Dell by John O'Brien
- The Year at Maple Hill Farm by Alice Provensen
- Raising Yoder’s Barn by Jane Yolen
- Farmer Duck by Martin Waddell
- Barnyard Dance by Sandra Boyton
- Caillou on the Farm
- Color Farm by Lois Ehlert
- Punk Farm by Jarrett J. Krosoczka
- Farm Alphabet by Jane Miller
- Who’s in my Bed? by Helen Piers
- Daddy Played Music for the Cow by Maryann Weidt
- The Cows are in the Corn by James Young

Dialogic reading supports vocabulary and narrative skills. In dialogic reading, the adult helps the child become the teller of the story. The adult becomes the listener, the questioner, the audience for the child.

Pre-identify the vocabulary words that you are emphasizing. Words like silo and the different names of baby animals can be used. Point out that a baby duck is a duckling, a foal is a baby horse, etc. Ask open-ended questions after labeling the new words. Encourage the use of the new vocabulary words when you are retelling the story. “What is the baby horse, or foal, doing?” “What do you think the farmer keeps in this silo?” “What do you think the silo looks like?”

Ask your child open-ended questions. Open-ended questions are those which require more thought and more than a simple one word answer. What do you see in this picture?

If your child gives you a one word answer, expand on what they say. “What’s this animal?” If you point to a dog, and your children answers “dog” say “Yes, a happy mommy dog running with all of her puppies.”
Here are some song and rhymes about Farm Animals

**Draw a Shape**
Draw a rectangle, draw a rectangle  
(Draw a rectangle in the air with finger)
Shaped like a window.
Draw a rectangle, draw a rectangle  
(Draw a rectangle in the air with finger)
With corners four.
Draw a circle, draw a circle  
(Draw a circle in the air with finger)
Round as can be.
Draw a circle, draw a circle  
(Draw a circle in the air with finger)
Just for me.

**Five little ducks went out one day**
Five little ducks went out one day  
(Hold up hand)
Over the hills and far away  
(Move hand in circle motion)
When Mother Duck said, “Quack, Quack, Quack”
But only four little ducks came back  
(Hold up four fingers)

**Countdown to**
“None of her five little ducks came back”
Sad mother duck went out to play  
(Slow down here, she’s sad)
Over the hills and far away
When Mother Duck said, “Quack, Quack, Quack”
All of her five little ducks came back  
(Hold up five fingers)

**Five Green Apples**
Farmer Brown had three green apples hanging on the tree
Farmer Brown had three green apples hanging on the tree
Then he plucked one apple and ate it hungrily
Leaving two green apples a-hanging on the tree.

**Ten Fluffy Chicks**
Five eggs and five eggs, that makes ten  
(hold up ten fingers)
Sitting on top is warm Mother Hen  
(place one hand on top of the other)
Cackle, cackle, cackle, what do I see?  
(clap three times, hold out hands)
Ten fluffy chicks, as yellow as can be  
(hold up ten fingers)