Dear Caregivers:

Today we used some of these books, fingerplays, and other materials in our storytime. Please continue helping your child develop by sharing these at home!

BOOKS TO SHARE

- Thanku: Poems of Gratitude edited by Miranda Paul
- Thank You, Bees by Toni Yuly
- The Thank You Book by Mo Willems
- The Circle of Thanks: Native American Poems and Songs of Thanksgiving by Joseph Bruchac
- Biscuit Is Thankful by Alyssa S. Capucilli
- Thank You, Omu by Oge Mora
- Gracias/Thank You by Pat Mora
- Llama Llama Gives Thanks by Anna Dewdney
- Bear Says Thanks by Karma Wilson
- Give Thanks For Each Day by Steve Metzger
- The Thankful Book by Todd Parr

FUN WITH FINGERPLAYS AND SONGS

- Thank You, Thank You
  [Tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star"]
  Thank you, thank you, very much.
  For everything that I can touch.
  Thanks a lot for nature's food.
  And for when I’m feeling good.
  Thank you, thank you, very much.
  For moms and dads and friends and such.

- If You're Thankful
  [Tune: "If You're Happy and You Know It"]
  If you're thankful and you know it, clap your hands.
  If you're thankful and you know it, clap your hands.
  If you're thankful and you know it,
  Then your face will surely show it.
  If you're thankful and you know it, clap your hands.

- Thanks A Lot [song by Raffi]
  Thanks a lot
  Thanks for the sun in the sky
  Thanks a lot

  [Verses: clouds so high; whispering wind; birds in spring; moonlit night; stars so bright; wonder in me; way I feel]

  Thanks for the animals, thanks for the land
  Thanks for the people everywhere
  Thanks a lot
  Thanks for all I've got
  Thanks for all I've got
Skinna-marinky Dinky Dink [song]

Skinna-marinky dinky dink, skinna-marinky doo. I [point to yourself] love [cross arms across chest] you! [Point to a child]

Skinna-marinky dinky dink, skinna-marinky doo. I [point to yourself] love [cross arms across chest] you! [Point to a child]

I love you in the morning, and in the afternoon. I love you in the evening, and underneath the moon.

Oh, skinna-marinky dinky dink, skinna-marinky doo. I [point to yourself] love [cross arms across chest] you! [Point to a child]

Giving Thanks [poem by Joseph Bruchac]

Thanksgiving is more than just one day, so a Mohawk elder said to me.

Though it is good that we remember this time with feasting each November.

We need to give thanks every dawn for the gifts of life, for each breath drawn.

For everything that keeps us living, we speak our words of true thanksgiving.

Gratitude Jar

Supplies:
Slips of paper
Pencil/pen
Jar or other container

Brainstorm a list of prompts with your child that are designed to spark discussions of gratitude. Examples:

"What made me smile today?"
"How did technology make my life easier today?"
"What do I love most about my home?"
"What smells am I thankful for?"

For more inspiration, google "gratitude prompts."

Write these prompts on slips of paper and put them into your jar.

[Optional: Decorate the outside of the jar with washi tape, markers, collage materials and mod-podge, etc.]

Every day, take a prompt from the jar and take turns answering with your child and other members of your family.

Studies show that people who express their feelings of gratitude regularly are happier and healthier.

Model an attitude of thankfulness in front of your child(ren) by verbally expressing gratitude for even the smallest things (example -- "I'm so grateful that we found a parking space this close to the grocery store!").

Some children may feel anxiety over saying 'thank you' in person, especially to strangers, so offer them an alternative method (sign language, written thank you note, etc.) to express their gratitude and demonstrate polite manners.

Help your child research how to say 'thank you' in a language you don't already speak at home.