Happy Valentine's Day!

Stories we shared:
Guess How Much I Love You: by Sam McBratney
Mouse’s First Valentine: by Lauren Thompson
Lilly’s chocolate heart: by Kevin Henkes

Other books you may enjoy sharing:
I love you just the way you are: by Virginia Miller
Clifford I Love You: by Norman Bridwell
Secret Valentine: by Catherine Stock
Valentine’s Day at the Zoo: by Nadine Westcott
What Kind of Kiss? by Alyssa Capucilli
Sweet Hearts: by Jan Carr
I love you so much: by Carl Norac
The Kissing Monster: by Marion Bauer
Little Bear’s Valentine: by Else Minarik
Little Mouse’s Big Valentine: by Thacher Hurd
How are you peeling? by Saxton Freyman
Roses are pink your feet really stink: by D. deGroat
How are you peeling? by Saxton Freyman
One Zillion Valentines: by Frank Modell
I need a valentine: by Harriet Ziefert
Happy Valentine’s Day Emma: by J. Stevenson
One Very Best Valentine’s Day: by Joan Blos
Valentine Mice: by Bethany Roberts
Yours ’Till the Ice Cracks: by Laura Geringer
Somebody Loves You Mr. Hatch: by Eileen Spinelli
I love you as much...: by Laura Melmed
Valentine Bears: by Eve Bunting
Valentine: by Carol Carrick
Happy Valentine's Day: by Carol Barkin
Cranberry valentine: by Wende Devlin
Bee my valentine: by Miriam Cohen
Winnie the Pooh's Valentine: by BruceTalkington
Valentine friends: by Ann Schweninger
The hunt for rabbit's galosh: by Ann Schweninger
It's Valentine's Day! by Jack Prelutsky
Village full of valentines: by J. Stevenson
Bumpety Bump: by Kathy Henderson
Best Valentine in the world: by Marjorie Sharmat
Clifford's First Valentine's Day: by N. Bridwell
Great Valentines Day Balloon Race: by A. Adams
Lots of Hearts: by Maryann Cocca-Leffler
Super Fine Valentine: by Bill Cosby
The Very Special Valentine: by Maggie Keen

Early Literacy Extras:
♥ Talk about the word “Valentine” sound out the different parts of the word “val” “en” “tine” – say them separately and then together again, first slowly and then faster. Clap once for each syllable of the word. Do the same thing with “sweetheart.”

♥ Help your child think of words that rhyme with “love” like “glove, above, dove” – make up silly rhymes with these words. Try rhyming “den” and “sleep” too!

♥ Help your child think of words that start with the “V”- “vuh” sound or have the “v” sound in them (vase, violin, glove, drive, very, give).

♥ Show your child that the letter “V” is like a triangle. Find other things around the house that have a triangle shape. Practice drawing a triangle and other letters with this shape such as A, M, N, and W.

♥ Make Valentines with your child out of scrap paper, stickers, and other supplies you may have around the house. Show your child how to spell each person’s name on the valentine, naming each letter and saying the name as you read it. Learning to read and write the words “Mom” and “Dad” will make your child feel very proud.

♥ 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 develop early literacy skills. Try the songs and rhymes on the following pages.
Songs and rhymes to share:

**You Are My Sunshine**
You are my sunshine, my only sunshine
You make me happy when skies are gray
You'll never know dear, how much I love you
Please don't take my sunshine away

**Bushel And A Peck**
I love you, a bushel and a peck!
A bushel and a peck, and a hug around the neck!
A hug around the neck, and a barrel and a heap
A barrel and a heap, and I'm talkin' in my sleep.
About you...
You bet your pretty neck I do!

**Valentine** *(suit actions to words)*
Snip, snip, snip the paper
Press, press, press the paper
Here's a valentine for you!

**Come-A-Look-A-See**
Come a look a see
Here's my mama (wiggle thumb)
Here's my papa (wiggle pointer)
Brother tall (wiggle middle finger)
Sister, baby (wiggle ring finger & pinkie)
We love them all! (fold hands and kiss thumb)

**Look Who's Coming**
Look who's coming down the walk (shade eyes with hand)
Oh, please, Mr. Mailman, won't you stop? (wave hand)
With a knock, knock, knock (pretend to knock)
Anyone at home? (cup and around mouth)
A Valentine for you has come! (hold up pretend valentine)

**Valentines**
Valentines, valentines, how many do you see?
Valentines, valentines, count them all with me
One for father, one for mother (count on fingers)
One for grandma too
One for sister, one for brother
And here is one for you
(make heart with thumbs and index fingers)

**If You're Happy and You know It Clap Your Hands**

**I Love You You Love Me** *(the “Barney” song)*

**Roses are Red**
Violets are blue
Sugar is sweet
And so are you!

**I'm A Little Valentine** *(sing to "I'm a Little Teapot")*
I'm a little valentine,
Red and white
With ribbons and lace
I'm a beautiful sight
On Valentine's Day
Just put me in an envelope
And give me away!

**Little Miss Dimble** *(clap & bounce to rhyme)*
Little Miss Dimble
Lived in a thimble
She met a mosquito
And married him under the moon

**Skinnamarink**
Skinnamarinky dinky dink
Skinnamarinke do
I love you
(repeat)
I love you in the morning and in the afternoon
I love you in the evening, underneath the moon
(repeat beginning 3 lines)

**Say it in sign!**

**Love** = cross your arms over your chest - like a hug

**I Love You** = hold hand up palm facing out – middle two fingers resting on your palm (combination of letters I, L, and Y)