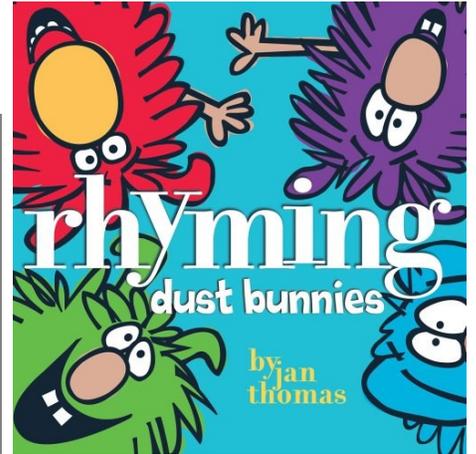


Books of the Month

Rhyming Dust Bunnies by Jan Thomas

This hilarious book focuses on four dust bunnies, three of them love to rhyme and do so over and over. One dust bunny focuses a little more on what is happening around them. It features large, vibrant illustrations and simple text making it appropriate for all ages.

A very fun read, indeed!



Other fun books that RHYME

No Two Alike by Keith Baker—Very few words and lovely, large illustrations make this a nice rhyming book to read with infants and toddlers.

Who Ate All the Cookie Dough? by Karen Beaumont—This book features rhyming text and a repeating line. Popular with preschoolers.

Jamberry by Bruce Degan—A celebratory play on words using all sorts of berries. Great for Toddlers and Preschoolers in the Northwest!

The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson—A very funny story about a mouse who makes up an imaginary creature in order to escape from critters who want to eat him.. Wonderful for preschoolers and young school-age children.

Hush Little Baby by Brian J. Pinkney—Nice, large illustrations accompany this wonderful version of the old song. Preschool.

Snowy Flowy, Blowy: A Twelve Months Rhyme by Nancy Tafuri—gorgeous oversized illustrations and very simple rhyming text. Perfect for infants and toddlers.

A Dog Needs a Bone by Audrey Wood - A very funny take on the old Mother Goose Rhyme. Preschool.

Rhyme of the Month

Clap, Clap, Clap your Hands

Clap, clap, clap your hands,
clap your hands together
Clap, clap, clap your hands,
clap your hands together

Stomp, stomp, stomp your feet...

Nod, nod, nod your head...

Blink, blink, blink your eyes...

Clap, stomp, blink and nod, put them all together...

(This last verse is best done by preschoolers as Toddlers are not usually able to put them all together.)

Poem of the Month

Little Bird

Once I saw a little bird go hop, hop, hop!
And I cried, "Little Bird, will you stop, stop, stop?"
I was going to the window to say,
"How do you do?"
But he shook his little tail and away he flew.



Mother Goose



Free STARS trainings are listed at www.piercecountylibrary.org

You may register for STARS classes by clicking on the date of the class on the **Calendar** of the

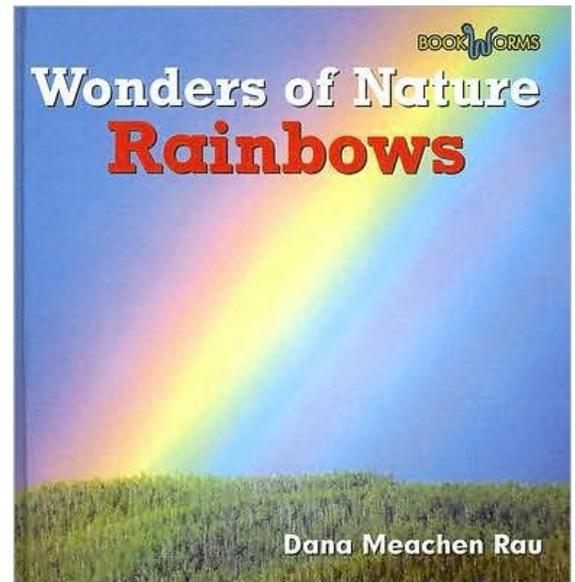
Pierce County Library website: www.piercecountylibrary.org

Learning Ideas for April:

Rainbows

Share a book about rainbows. Rainbows by Dana Meachen Rau (Part of the *Wonders of Nature* series) is a nice book.

- Encourage the children to share recollections of any rainbows they have seen.
- Talk about how rainbows are created.
- If you have access to a prism or crystal, use a flashlight or sunlight to cast rainbows into your classroom.
- Place rainbow colors of paper on the table with scissors and glue and encourage the children to create any sort of art they like from the rainbow colors.
- Hang crepe paper rainbow streamers from the ceiling.
- Weather permitting (sunlight needed) spray water with the hose outside and look for rainbows in the stream of water.
- Cut out arches of colored felt and let the children play with a rainbow flannel board.



Rainbow Cookies

Make sugar cookies. (If possible, roll out the dough and let the children cut out shapes using cookie cutters.)

Mix 3 egg yolks with a tsp water and a tsp corn syrup. Separate liquid into three cups and add different color food coloring to each cup.

When the cookies are three minutes from being baked, remove them from the oven, and scoop each cookie onto a paper plate for each child to paint. As the children finish painting, return the cookies to the cookie pan and bake them for three or four more minutes until they are done.

Let cool and eat!



Music Painting

Spread a large piece of butcher paper on the floor and set out paper plates of paint and brushes. Play classical music and encourage the children to "Paint the Music"

Put down another sheet of paper and play a different kind of music and encourage them to paint that. Compare the two paintings and talk about their similarities and differences.

You can find a myriad of early learning information at our website:

<http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/>

(in the parents/caregivers section of the Kids/Teens menu)