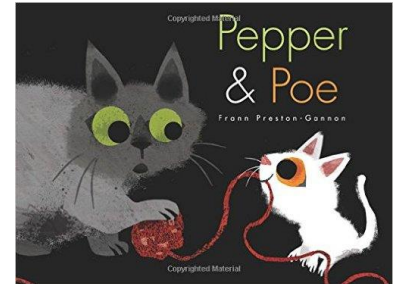


**The Night World by Mordecai Gerstein** – At the insistence of his cat, Sylvie, a little boy ventures through the dark house and out into the nighttime backyard where together they watch the sunrise. Great book to spark conversation about nighttime and daytime. Ages 4-6.

**Pepper & Poe by Frann Preston-Gannon** – All is perfect in Pepper the cat's world, until the arrival of Poe. Although unhappy at first, Pepper comes to – eventually – appreciate the rambunctious kitten. Darling illustrations!! Ages 3-5.



## OTHER FUN EXAMPLES OF BOOKS ABOUT CATS:

**Cat Nap by Toni Yuly** – Cat tries to hide from kitten, whose energy knows no bounds – until the last page... Ages 2-5.

**Chester by Melanie Watt** – Chester is a cheeky, snarky cat who tries with all his might to rewrite the original story being told, using red ink! This silly story will certainly be appreciated and enjoyed by young elementary school children. Ages 5-8.

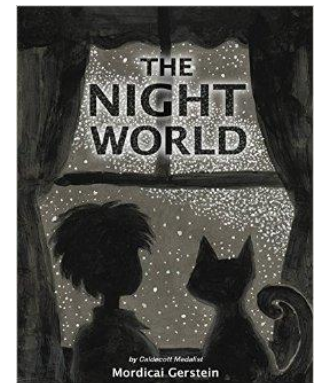
**Have You Seen My Cat? By Eric Carle** – A great opportunity to learn about the many different types of cats – from lion to cheetah to housecat. Great discussion book for children. Ages 2-5.

**Kitten's First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes** – Henkes captures the curiosity and wonder of a kitten enjoying her first night exploring the outdoors in this simple story. A perfect addition to circle time about cats, baby animals, or nighttime. Ages 3-5.

**My House by Byron Barton** – Meet Jim, the cat of the house, as he takes children on a tour of his home and introduces everyone to his human, Jane. The bright, colorful pictures will appeal to very young children. Ages 1-4.

**Posy by Linda Newberry** – Posy, an adorable kitten is the focus of this simple story which features wonderful rhyme and many new vocabulary words for children. Ages 3-6.

**Who Says That, Cat the Cat? By Mo Willems** – Willems does it once again with this entertaining yet simple story about a cat and her friends. Ages 3-8.



## Rhyme of the Month

### My Cat

There must be a motor inside of my cat  
What else could it be that would sound just like that?  
I've learned how to start it by rubbing her fur.  
But I never learned how to turn off the purr!



## Song of the Month



### Stretch Song: Ears, Whiskers, Tail, and Paws

(to tune of "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes")

Ears, whiskers, tail, and paws, tail, and paws,  
Ears, whiskers, tail, and paws, tail, and paws,  
Fur and eyes, and mouth and claws,  
Ears, whiskers, tail, and paws, tail and paws

*Match your actions to the words!*



## Learning Ideas for October

### The Feline Family – SCIENCE LEARNING!

Talk with your children about the many different types of cats there are and bring in real photographs to illustrate their differences and similarities. Eric Carle's book "Have You Seen My Cat?" is a great starting place since there are so many different types of cats in this story.

- Talk about "wild vs. tame" cats
- Talk about "big vs. little" cats
- Talk about cats with stripes, spots, or other patterns and point out these patterns
- Ask children how many different types of cats they can name and write down their responses
- Create a chart with pictures for some of the topics above such as
  - Wild vs. Tame
  - Cats with stripes vs. cats with spots
- Make a cat collage using pictures and photographs from magazines, newspapers, etc. that you no longer need. Children can each create their own collage or you can do a mural where everyone contributes to one large paper. Display the finished work in your classroom for further discussion.

### Daytime Vs. Nighttime

In the stories, "Kitten's First Full Moon" by Kevin Henkes and "The Night World" by Mordicai Gerstein, animals and children explore the inside and outside world at night. Use these stories as jumping off points to talk about daytime and nighttime with your children.

- How are they different?
- What do we do during the day/at night?
- Does our house or outside look the same or different during the day/night? How?

Turn your book area or dramatic play area into a daytime/nighttime area. Keep part of the area bright and open. Make part of the area darker by covering it over with blankets.

### Daytime/nighttime crayon resist –

Invite children to create two pictures using crayons and paper. Paint over one picture with a lighter watercolor paint (light blue or green) and paint over the other picture with a darker watercolor paint (black, purple, or dark blue). Talk with children about the differences in the two pictures.



You may register for FREE STARS classes by clicking on the date of the class on the CALENDAR of the Pierce County Library web site: [www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org).

THE TOPIC FOR THE NEXT STARS CLASS ON SATURDAY, October 15<sup>th</sup>, WILL BE "UNDERSTANDING BRAIN SCIENCE, ACEs AND RESILIENCE."