Books of the Month

Earth! My First 4.54 Billion Years
This wonderful book contains information about the earth from its very beginning through the present. The earth is presented as a little being which allows the information to be presented in an endearing way. The illustrations are vibrant and humorous. This is a fun and appropriate book for a first overview of our planet. Preschool and young schoolage.

Other fun books about the Universe
Gravity by Jason Chin — Who knew that gravity could be so much fun? Very spare text make this a nice first examination of the concept of gravity. Preschool and Young Schoolage.
The Darkest Dark by Chris Hadvield — Based on a childhood memory, a real-life astronaut gives children a way to lessen their fear of the dark. A wonderful, imaginative true story! Preschool and young schoolage.
Higher! Higher! by Leslie Petricelli — A young girl takes her swing to great heights in this cute picture book. Toddlers and Preschoolers.
Star Stuff: Carl Sagan and the Mysteries of the Cosmos by Stephanie Roth Sisson — A simple, but inspiring easy picture book biography. Good information and a creative layout make this a nice choice for young school-age.

Rhyme of the Month
Climb Aboard the Spaceship
(Act out the movements)
Climb aboard the spaceship,
We're going to the moon.
Hurry and get ready,
We're going to blast off soon.
Put on your helmets
And buckle up real tight.
Here comes the countdown,
Count with all our might.
10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1—BLAST OFF!!

Poem of the Month
Star
Where we are is very far from every star.
Karen Kuskin

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
**Sensory Scavenger Hunt**

**Supplies:**
1. Cardboard sheet
2. Tape
3. Assorted outdoor items: acorns, twigs, leaves, flower petals, pebbles, etc.

Collect several easy-to-find outdoor items such as those listed above. Tape them to the cardboard and encourage the children to use the cardboard as the scavenger hunt guide and find all those items outside. Talk together about their hunt; What was the hardest item to find? What items was closest to the classroom? What do they feel like? How are they alike? How are they different?

Perhaps have the children create an art piece from the items.

For toddlers, tape one item to a small sheet of cardboard and send them out to hunt.

**Feather Tip Salt Tray Writing**

**Supplies**
- Cookie sheet or casserole pan
- Salt or cornmeal
- Feathers
- Assorted sample letters, words, or numbers

Pour salt or cornmeal into the pan to cover well. Place words or letters out as inspiration. Place feathers in each pan and encourage the children to copy the letters or numbers or just draw in the pans.

If you like, encourage the children to explore the cornmeal/salt before you place the feathers out for writing.

This activity courtesy of Teach Preschool