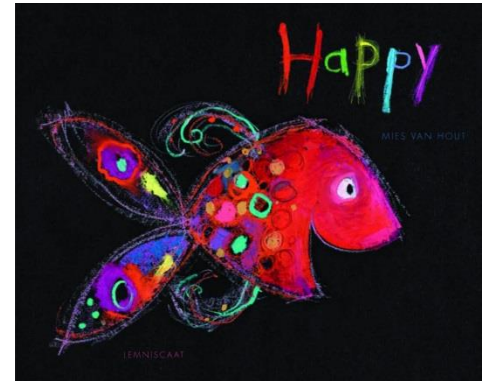


Book of the Month



Happy by Mies Van Hout - Wow, what a fun new discovery! A great book for learning about the many emotions people (and fish!) can feel and what each of these emotions mean. This book would be a great place to begin a thoughtful discussion with your children on this subject. Plus, each page is like a work of art. Preschool - 2nd Grade.

More books featuring FISH...

Hooray for Fish by Lucy Cousins - A great introduction to basic colors and shapes through the eyes of a little fish exploring his undersea world. Ages 2-5.

Fish Eyes by Lois Ehlert- More than a basic counting book, Ehlert's creative artwork is a feast for the eyes. Ages 2-5.

The Story of Fish & Snail by Deborah Freedman - A story of two friends who have a falling out (literally) and work through it to become friends again. Ages 4-7.

Fish Had a Wish by Michael Garland - In this story, fish wishes he could be other animals but comes full circle to appreciate being what he is - a fish! Ages 3-5.

Blue Sea by Robert Kalan - Surprisingly, one of my most requested books at story time. Children love the suspense of the fish chasing after each other and the fact that the smallest one escapes in the end. Ages 3-6.

This is Not My Hat by Jon Klassen - A book list on "fish" would not be complete without this recent Caldecott Medal winner, though I can't say it is one of my favorites. Check it out and decide for yourself! Ages 4-8.

Paul Meets Bernadette by Rosy Lamb - Paul is perfectly content to swim circles around his bowl - that is, until Bernadette arrives. Bernadette introduces Paul to a whole new world outside the fish bowl although she comically gets things wrong much of the time. This is a great story about using your imagination and how a new friendship can open your eyes! Ages 5-8.

Swimmy by Leo Lionni - A classic tale about how even the smallest creatures can work together to overcome a difficult situation. Ages 4-8.

One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish by Dr. Seuss - This wonderful classic is a fun book to read aloud to a group and, being a beginning reader, also great for children to practice reading on their own. Who doesn't enjoy a good Dr. Seuss book?! Ages 4-8.



COOL ART IDEA!

SAND PAPER STARFISH

Cut sandpaper out in the shape of stars. Tape to the table. Have the child place a piece of paper over the star and rub a crayon over the paper to create a starfish rubbing.

RHYME AND SONG OF THE MONTH

HERE IS THE SEA

Here is the Sea, the wavy sea
Here is my boat,
And here is me
All of the fishes
Down below
Wiggle their tails
And away they go.

MY FISHY SONG

(sung to "The More We Get Together")
If I could be a fishy,
A fishy, a fishy,
If I could be a fishy,
What kind would I be?
A goldfish, a guppy
A minnow, a jellyfish
If I could be a fishy,
I would be a.....
(Each child fills in the blank)

MATH AND SCIENCE

FISHING FUN

What you need:

String	Paper clips
2-4 wooden spoons (or sticks)	Construction paper
Several magnets	Markers

Tie three feet of string to a wooden spoon. Attach a magnet to the end of the string. Cut many different size fish from construction paper and, if you are able, laminate these fish to make them last longer. Attach a paper clip to each fish. Spread the fish shapes on the floor and let your children try to catch the fish.

Fun variations:

- Number each fish
- Put a different shape on each fish
- Put a letter on each fish
- Make the fish different colors, patterns, or textures

Ask children to find fish with certain numbers, shapes, or letters on them. Can they make a word from the fish they've caught? Can they find a fish match? Can they add up the numbers on the fish they've caught? Possibilities are endless and you can make the game as easy or as challenging as you like depending on the age of your children.

LITERACY AND RHYMING

Erase the Rhyme - Fish Theme

Draw an ocean or fish tank scene on a dry erase board. Once you've drawn a couple of these, invite children to draw their own pictures and play this game with each other.

Say a word, such as "wish", and have a child come up to erase what rhymes (fish); erase what rhymes with hand (sand); erase what rhymes with fun (sun). Continue this way until the whole picture is erased.

STARS TRAININGS

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 web site: www.piercecountylibrary.org