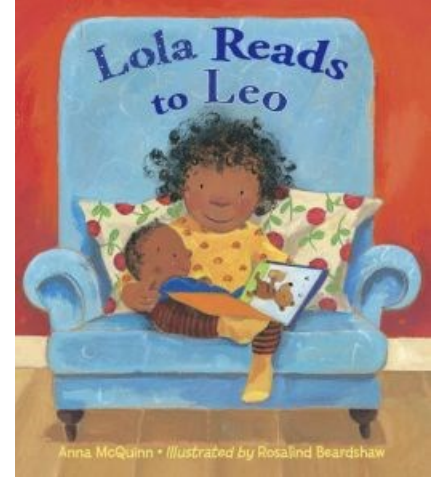


Books of the Month

Lola Reads to Leo by Anna McQuinn—Adorable Lola from Lola at the Library, and Lola Loves Stories, returns in another installment, this time with a brand-new baby brother, Leo. Like the very best big sister, Lola introduces Leo to many wonderful books and stories. The loving family and gentle mood of these books will hold appeal for very young children and the people who love them.



Other fun books about Brothers and Sisters

Mine by Shutta Crum—This nearly wordless book will have everyone laughing about a toddler's interference with her older sister's life. All ages.

My Little Sister Ate One Hair by Bill Grossman—Preschoolers will enjoy this funny cumulative story about the eating habits of a strange little sister.

Penny and Her Song by Kevin Henkes—This early reader is a wonderful book for young school-aged children, but also works well for preschool Circle time.

The Boss Baby by Marla Frazee— Anyone who has ever had a new baby in the house, will appreciate the plight of these parents and their new little "boss" of the house. All ages

Big, Red Lollipop by Rukhsana Khan— A young girl is invited to a classmate's birthday party and her mother insists she take her little sister along. This is a wonderful story for young school-aged children.

My Brother Charlie by Holly Robinson Peete— A young girl talks about her twin brother who has autism showing that in most ways—he's just a boy. Preschool and School age.

My Baby and Me by Lynn Reiser— This lovely book features gorgeous photographs and wonderful rhyming text about very young children and the new babies in their lives. Toddlers.

Rhyme of the Month

Come a Look a See

Come a look a see, here's my Mama
(Wiggle thumb)
Come a look a see, here's my Papa
(Wiggle index finger)
Come a look a see, Brother tall
(Wiggle middle finger)
Sister (wiggle ring finger)
Baby (wiggle pinky)
I love them all! (Blow a kiss)

Poem of the Month

My Family

Part of my family is grown-up and tall
Part of my family is little and small.
I'm in the middle and pleased with them all.

Marchette Chute



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 December:

Cotton Swab Painting

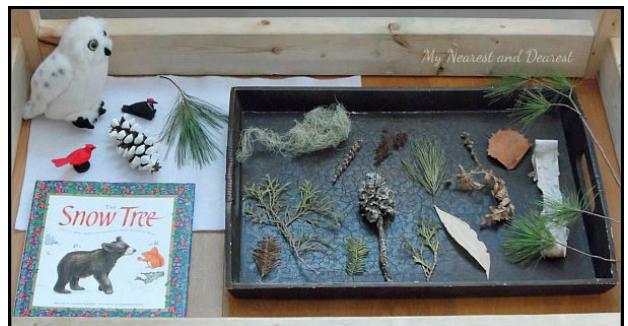
Squirt different color paint into a muffin tin and place several cotton swabs into each color. Place paper out and let the children practice painting with swabs. This gives them a chance to experiment with something other than a brush. Perhaps put out paper that can be folded as cards to send home to families.



Nature Table

Gather together some winter nature artifacts for the classroom for the children to touch and explore. Some ideas:

Moss, leaves, rocks, nuts/seeds, branches, pine cones, etc. Engage the children in a conversation about the items. Have they seen them before? Do they know what they are? Encourage them to describe the items—what they feel and look like.



Stories

As the winter closes in, create a cozy space in the classroom for quiet book gazing and reading. Pile up some large pillows with a supply of warm blankets and place a number of books in a box nearby for easy access. Let the children know this is a quiet corner for looking at books. If possible, spend a little time there modeling quiet reading for the children. Research informs us that children who have access to books of their own choosing are more likely to read for pleasure later in life. And since reading has been found to reduce stress as effectively as meditation—let's make this a healthy habit for everyone!

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)