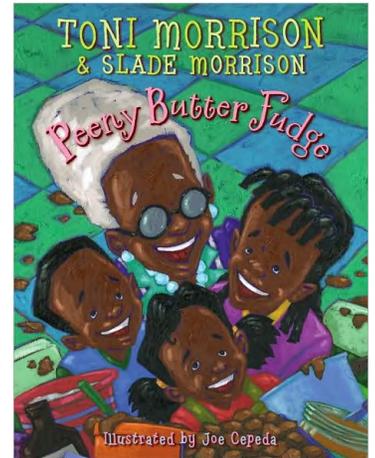


August 2012

## Book of the Month

Peeny Butter Fudge by Toni and Slade Morrison

This romp of a book, with hilarious and vivid illustrations by Joe Cepeda, is a joy from start to finish. Preschoolers will love the many activities that Grandmother initiates during her babysitting day. And do not worry! The book finishes with the recipe for delicious peeny-butter fudge! Yummy!



## Other fun books featuring Grandparents

Our Grandparents: A Global Album by Maya Ajmera—gorgeous photographs celebrate grandparents all over the world. Preschool.

I Love Saturdays and Domingos by Alma Flor Ada – a lovely book about a little girl who revels in the love of both her Spanish-speaking and English-speaking grandmothers.

Song and Dance Man by Karen Ackerman—A grandpa shows off some of the dance moves he performed when he was in Vaudeville. Preschool.

Full, Full, Full of Love by Trish Cooke – a little boy spends a gentle day with his grandmother. Preschool.

Abuela by Arthur Dorros – a young girl and her grandmother fly over New York city in this lovely book for preschoolers and young school-aged children.

These Hands by Margaret H. Mason – a grandfather shows his grandson many possible activities for hands in this beautifully uplifting book. Preschool and young school-aged children.

The Grandpa Book by Todd Parr – a simple book about all things Grandpa. All ages.

## Rhyme of the Month

### Grandpa's Hat

**These are Grandma's glasses.**

*Make "glasses" over eyes with fingers.*

**This is Grandma's hat.**

*Place hands close together over head.*

**And this is how she folds her hands**

*Clasp hands together.*

**And lays them in her lap.** *Place hands in lap.*

**These are Grandpa's glasses.**

*Make "glasses" over eyes with fingers.*

**This is Grandpa's hat.**

*Place hands farther apart over head.*

**And this is how he folds his arms**

*Cross arms.*

**And takes a little nap.**

*Place head on arms, as if sleeping.*



## Poem of the Month

### Growing Old

When I grow old I hope to be  
As beautiful as Grandma Lee.  
Her hair is soft and fluffy white  
Her eyes are blue and candle bright  
And down her cheeks  
Are cunning piles  
Of little ripples when she smiles.

Rose Henderson



## Learning Ideas for August:

Share some of the books suggested on the first page of this newsletter. At circle time, talk to the children about your grandparents. What they look like, where they live, their favorite pastimes, your favorite memory of them etc. Encourage the children to share something about their grandparents. If a child doesn't wish to share, talk about older people in the children's lives. Put out paper and markers or crayons, glue and magazine or internet pictures and encourage the children to make cards for a grandparent or relative. Dictate on the card a child's message to that person.

## STARS Update

We will post a schedule of classes for the fall as soon as possible.

Remember to turn in your Summer Reading Logs and get your prizes!

### Talking with Babies

Since so much of the brain wiring is laid down in the first three years of life, we know we should take every opportunity to stimulate baby's brains. The easiest (as well as fun) way to do this is to enter into a 'dialogue' with the baby. A dialogue happens when you make eye contact with the baby then say something (probably using that infant-directed musical way of talking) and then wait for the baby to respond. The baby may coo or squeal or jiggle their legs. You respond to that and then wait again for them to react. This 'dialogue' is where baby hears language and learns the basics of give and take conversation.

**Talk on!**

### Playing

Summer in the Northwest brings many opportunities for outdoor play. Children really hone their social emotional skills during free play as they engage each other. And summer can also be a wonderful time to introduce children to the beauty of Nature. Look around your outdoor area for learning moments—insects that fly by, birds nesting and feeding, bees gathering pollen, flowers blooming, the shade that trees provide etc. Engage the children in conversation and encourage them to continue daily observations of the world around them.

*Have Fun!*

If you have questions about this newsletter please contact Susan Anderson-Newham:

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