Book of the Month:

**Animals Should Definitely Not Wear Clothing** by Judi Barrett

This classic picture book reminds us (through many hilarious illustrations) that perhaps it's wise that animals are born with their own so-called wardrobes and do not need articles of clothing.

*Perfect amusement for children of all ages.*

**Other fun Funny books:**

**Where’s My Teddy?** by Jez Alborough—A very funny rhyming story of two lost souls looking for their teddy bears. This one is a library favorite.—Preschool.

**Barnyard Dance** by Sandra Boynton—We think Sandra Boynton must be a lot of fun to be around—her books are jam packed with laughs. Babies and Toddlers

**Bark George** by Jules Feiffer—Deceptively simple, this picture book packs a lot of laughs for people of all ages. Preschool.

**How Are You Peeling? Foods With Moods** by Saxton Freymann—Hilarious photos of fruit and vegetables with faces! Not only funny but great for beginning a conversation about feelings...and food (is an inspiration for food/craft creations!)—Preschool

**The Seals on the Bus** by Lenny Hort—A fractured version of the song. And really, really fun to sing aloud. Children will request this one over and over. – All ages.

**Shark in the Park** by Nick Sharratt—a little boy thinks he spies a shark in the park, but what he’s actually seeing is something else entirely. Or is it? Older preschool and young school age.

**Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus** by Mo Willems—*All* his books are funny! Every age.

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**Rhyme of the Month**

*Jack in the Box, jack in the box*

*Oh so still*

*(crouch down on the ground)*

*Won’t you come out?*

*(hold arms out to the side like a question)*

*Yes! I will!*

*(leap to your feet)*

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**Poem of the Month**

*The lightning flashed*

*The thunder crashed*

*And all the world was shaken*

*The little pig curled up his tail*

*And ran to save his bacon!*

*Anonymous*

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Free STARS trainings are listed at [www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org)

In the Child Care section of the Parents/Caregivers menu
Literacy ideas for August:

We have loads of animal books in the library. Check out one that has great photographs of animals, or print out photos of different animals from the web. Show these photos to the children using them to encourage the children to name the animals, describe them, and make animals sounds. If you work with very young children, they will be able to make the sound the animal makes long before they can actually say the name of the animal. Making the sound the animal makes is a beginning vocabulary skill. The children are still distinguishing one animal from another and identifying it. Plus, children of all ages love making animal sounds! (And being in a room full of “animals” can be fun for teachers too!)

Mother Goose rhymes are a part of our western culture. They are silly and yet traditional. Sharing these rhymes with children helps them develop important rhyming and vocabulary skills. We have dozens of wonderful collections of Mother Goose rhymes at the library. These are fun to share regularly with children. Once your children have heard them many times, try having the children act them out. For example, set a candlestick out on the floor and while you recite:

“Jack be nimble, Jack be quick. Jack jump over the candlestick”

Have the children take turns jumping over the candlestick.

Here are some suggestions for rhymes to act out:
- Hickory, Dickory Dare
- 1, 2, Buckle my Shoe
- Sing a Song of Sixpence
- Pease Porridge Hot
- The Queen of Hearts

Here’s a fun game to help your children learn the letters of the alphabet:

Make the room fairly dim if possible. Have the children sit facing a fairly blank wall. Using a flashlight, turn it on and “write” a letter against the wall, then switch it off (it may take a few tries to do this clearly) See if the children can guess which letter you wrote.

Once the children are comfortable with this game, let the children begin to “write” letters for others to read.

Have fun!

If you have questions about this newsletter or if you would like to register for STARS trainings, call 253-536-6500 ext 189 or email susana@piercecountylibrary.org for details.