

August 2013

Book of the Month

What Do Wheels Do All Day? by April Jones Prince

This very simple rhyming book looks at the many, many ways that wheels are used in everyday life. The large format and vivid pictures make this a very nice choice to use with toddlers or preschoolers.



Other fun books featuring *Transportation*

Freight Train by Donald Crews – A classic train book that doubles as a book about colors. All ages.

Honk Honk! Beep Beep! by Daniel Kirk—A wonderful trip across town in the early morning told with rhyme and adorable Lego-like illustrations. Preschool.

Machines Go to Work by William Low—Different vehicles are featured in a question and answer format. Great for preschoolers.

Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site by Sherry Duskey Rinker—This fun rhyming bedtime book features many construction vehicles being put gently to sleep. Preschool.

Truckery Rhymes by Jon Scieszka—Old nursery rhymes and traditional songs get an uplift via a vehicle theme in this fun book. All ages.

Minerva Louise and the Red Truck by Janet Morgan Stoeke—The hilarious hen returns in this book about a ride in the back of a truck. Preschool.

Backseat A B C by Maria Van Lieshout—This clever alphabet book features signs from the road. Great for preschoolers and toddlers.

Rhyme of the Month

Train

I'm a little choo-choo train
Chugging down the track
(run fist up opposite arm)
First I go forward, then I go back
Now my bell is ringing—Ding! Ding!
Hear my whistle blow! - Whoo!
What a lot of noise I make
Everywhere I go.
(Act out movements and sounds)

Poem of the Month

If I could go
as high and low
As the wind,
as the wind
As the wind can blow—
I'd go!

John Ciardi



Free STARS trainings are listed at www.piercecountylibrary.org

Due to the new smaller class size requirement, we will be issuing numbered tickets when you register for a STARS class. Please bring your ticket with you as you *MUST* have a ticket to gain entrance to the class.

Thank you!

Learning Ideas for August:

Rhyme Basket

Place a lot of small objects in a basket. At circle time, pull out one object at a time and show them to the children, naming them aloud. Once you have identified all the objects, pick up one and ask the children to find the item in the basket that rhymes with the object you selected. For example, you pick up a sock and in the basket is a block. Leave the items out for the children to sort on their own after circle time.

Sample Objects:

Can, pan, block, sock, dog, frog, cat, hat, pen, hen, glue, screw, truck, duck, grape, ape, bear, pear, etc.



Counting

Make counting practice part of your day-to-day routines this month. Be mindful of the times you could use numbers in everyday conversation. For example, "I see **two** books over here on the shelf." "Please make **one** long line". Etc. We also want to give preschool children plenty of practice counting above 10. Here are some fun suggestions to add counting to daily routines:

- Count aloud the number of students present every day
- Count aloud each day on the calendar
- Count the number of steps it takes to get from one place to another
- Count cubbies, chairs, tables, balls, blocks, animals etc.
- Count plates on the table.
- Count the number of feet around the circle at Circle time.
- Count all the legs on all the chairs in the room
- Count the posters on the wall

Count Everything!



Have Fun!

Sunshine

Talk together with children about the sun. What do they know about the sun? (Remind them that we should NEVER look directly at the sun).

Walk from shade to sunshine and talk together about how shade and sunlight feel and look different.

Place an object on a dark piece of construction paper and place it in the sun or on a sunny window sill. Check it every day and talk about what is happening to it. Wonder why that happens.

Experiment with shadows in the sunlight—hold up different objects and encourage the children to talk about what they observe about the shadow.

Talk about sunscreen and why it is important. Talk about the importance of sunglasses and hats.

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)