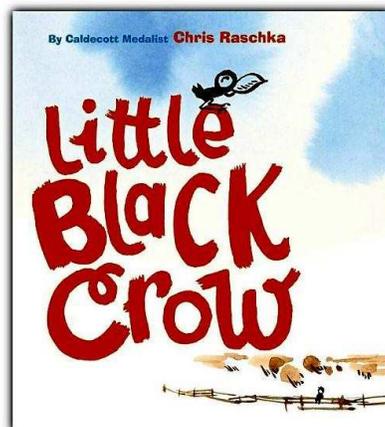


Book of the Month:

Little Black Crow by Chris Raschka

Beautiful spare watercolors accompany a perfect, gentle text as a little boy wonders about the activities and feelings of a little black crow. Preschoolers.



Other fun books about *Black and White*

White Rabbit's Color Book by Alan Baker—A rabbit hops from one color to another with some interesting results. Toddler and Preschool.

The Black Book of Colors by Menena Cottin—Gorgeous book that helps children imagine colors by other means than the sense of sight.

Black and White by Tana Hoban. This volume incorporates Hoban's classic "Black on White" and "White on Black" books for babies. Infants.

What is Black and White? by Peter Horacek—A very simple board book for young children about things in the world that are black and white. Infants and Toddlers.

Black, White, Day, Night by Laura Vaccaro Seeger—This is an absolutely wonderful concept book for young children. All ages.

The Little White Duck by Walt Whippo—Lovely picture book based on the old folk song. Preschool.

Rhyme of the Month

Rainbow over the water
(ripple hands like wavy water)
Rainbow over the tree
(Shape arms like a tree)
Rainbow over the mountain
(Shape arms like a mountain over your head)
Rainbow over the sea
(spread arms out wide)
Rainbow over the flowers
(Sprout your hand like a flower blooming)
Rainbow over the bee ("buzz" with fingers)
Rainbow over the animals, Rainbow over me!
(Swing arms in an arch over your head)

Poem of the Month

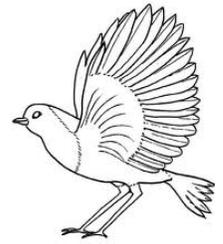
Red sky at morning
Sailors take warning
Red sky at night
Sailor's delight

Anonymous



Free STARS trainings are listed at www.piercecountylibrary.org
In the Child Care section of the Parents/Caregivers menu

Literacy ideas for January:



Phonological Awareness

Make a list of interesting but not difficult or unfamiliar words. Tell the children that you are going to say the words very, very slowly and that they can shout out the word as soon as they recognize it. For example, you say 'Mmmooooooooonnn', exaggerating each phonetic sound and giving the children a chance to really hear it.

This is a silly activity for you and the children will probably find it highly amusing, but it's a wonderful fun way to focus their attention on the smaller sounds in words and that is one of the most important of the pre-reading skills.

Plus, it's fun!

Print Awareness

Using colored paper, precut lots of paper "feathers". These will be used as the paper for the written responses of the children .

Put up a poster board with an outline of a bird on it. (You can find outlines of birds by clicking on the "Images" link on Google and typing in "bird coloring".)

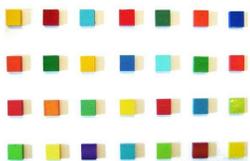
Tell the children that today, they will be studying "ornithology" - the study of birds.

Ask the children to brainstorm words that they think apply to birds. As the children suggest them, write the words on the precut feathers along with the name of the child who suggested the word.

Let the children glue the feathers onto the bird shape.

Choose or vote on a name for the "class bird"
Post the bird poster somewhere in the classroom.

Color Names (Vocabulary)



Scatter different colored paper (laminated) or fabric squares on the floor, one for every child.

Encourage children to pick a square on which to stand. Play music and let the children dance or march around the room. Tell the children that when the music stops they should move to a colored square that is not already taken by someone. Let each child announce the name of the color on which they are standing.

To make it more challenging, add unusually colored squares or have the children name a couple of color names for a square for example, pink and rose.

Have fun!