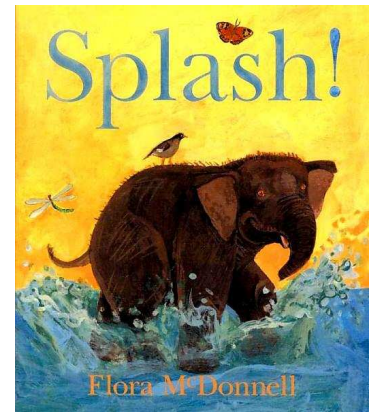


### Book of the Month:

**Splash** by Flora McDonnell

All the animals on the savannah are hot. Little elephant comes up with a very cool solution. Babies and older children alike will enjoy this bright, refreshing tale.



### **Other fun Water books:**

**Rain Dance** by Kathi Appelt— Adorable animals enjoy the rain in this very simple book for babies and toddlers.

**Boats** by Byron Barton—a celebration of different kinds of boats with Barton's characteristic vivid block drawings. Wonderful for all ages.

**The Water Hole** by Graeme Base—a counting book with beautiful detailed illustrations of some of the world's wild animals drinking at a water hole. Preschool and young school age.

**10 Little Rubber Ducks** by Eric Carle— Carle took an actual incident of a box of rubber ducks that fell off a ship at sea and turned it into a delightful story for preschoolers.

**Water, Water** by Eloise Greenfield— A little boy celebrates water in the many ways he meets it in the world. Babies and Toddlers.

**The Wave** by Suzy Lee—This excellent wordless book tells the story of a little girl's first encounter with the ocean. All ages.

**Water Dance** by Thomas Locker – Gorgeous book with short poetic descriptions of all different types of water—ponds, rivers, waterfalls, mist, storms etc. A beautiful first look at the water cycle.

### Rhyme of the Month

**All the fish are swimming in the water**  
*(fold your hands together and "swim" them)*

Swimming in the water  
Swimming in the water

**All the fish are swimming in the water**  
Bubble, bubble, bubble, bubble

*(form hands in a circle and move them about)*

**SPLASH!**

*(spray fingers wide open)*

Jackie Silberg

### Poem of the Month

If all of the raindrops  
Were lemon drops and gum drops  
Oh, wat a rain it would be  
I'd stand outside with my mouth open wide  
And ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah!

Anonymous

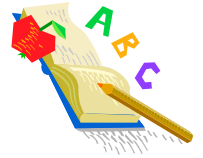


Free STARS trainings are listed at [www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org)  
In the Child Care section of the Parents/Caregivers menu

## Literacy ideas for June:

### Letter Awareness

- Print out large copies of upper and lower case letters (or write them very clearly on index cards using a fat marker)
- Show the cards to the children every day. Talk about and identify the letters. When the children are comfortable with the alphabet sit in a circle and put the cards face down.
- Place one card (don't let the children see which one!) into an envelope.
- Play music and have the children pass the letter envelope around.
- Stop the music—the child with the envelope gets to open it and read the letter inside. Have other children help identify the letter if that child needs help.
- Play again!



Using photographs from the web or from magazines, or using real objects collected from outside the classroom, hold up the photo or object and have the children identify its color. Begin with simple colors and objects, and show more complex ones as the game goes on. Name the more unusual colors. Point out the fact that the sky and blueberries are both blue. Talk about “shades” of colors. Talk about color mixing. What are the children’s favorite colors? What colors do they see in the classroom? What are the most unusual color names? Perhaps chart the most popular colors in your classroom.

### Color Awareness

#### Lift the Flap Books:

In the Fiddle is a Song

by Durga Bernard

Peek a Moo

Peek a Pet by Marie Cimarusti

Maisy's Big Flap Book by Lucy Cousins

My Dog, My Cat, My Mama and Me

by Nigel Gray

Where's Spot? (And other Spot books)

by Eric Hill

What Does Baby Say? by Karen Katz

### Writing Skills



We have many lift-the-flap books in the library. When children lift the flap, they are actually practicing writing (learning how to use fingers in a pinching fashion to accomplish a task)

Choose a lift the flap book from the library and during Circle time, let each child come up one at a time and lift the flap. Cheer together when they accomplish this. (This also helps develop the social skill of turn taking, the development of self regulation, and the feeling of self esteem—plus, it's fun!)

## 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](mailto:susana@piercecountylibrary.org) for details.