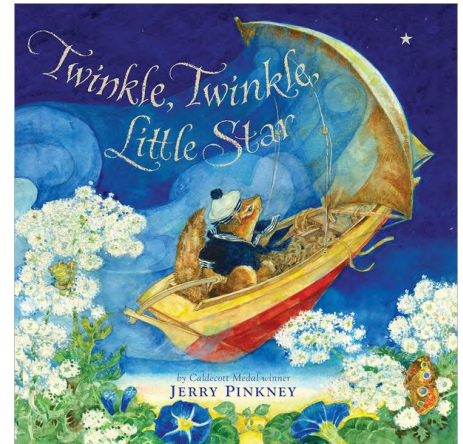


June 2012

## Book of the Month



### Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star by Jerry Pinkney

As he did with 2010's The Three Little Kittens, Pinkney brings another nursery rhyme to vivid life. The exquisite illustrations detailed with creatures, flowers, and dreams, are an absolute delight. And the fantastical journey of the little chipmunk who wonders about the star just might inspire children to begin some wondering of their own. Preschool.

### Other fun books featuring Night

The Very Lonely Firefly by Eric Carle – a firefly sets out in the night to seek companionship. Preschool.

Sleepy, Oh so Sleepy by Denise Fleming—infants and toddlers will enjoy this beautifully illustrated look at the many sleepy creatures in the world.

Kitten's First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes – gorgeous illustrations tell the story of a little kitten who is determined to find that giant saucer of milk reflected in the pond. Preschool.

When Sheep Sleep by Laura Numeroff—large illustrations, repetition and rhyme make this a nice choice to share with groups. Preschool.

Good Night Gorilla by Peggy Rathman – a little gorilla frees all the animals at the zoo to hilarious consequences. This wordless book is wonderful for all ages.

Animals are Sleeping by Suzanne Slade—lovely illustrations and a sense of humor make this a nice choice for everyone.

The House in the Night by Susan Marie Swanson—a beautiful book for toddlers and preschoolers.

Bear Feels Scared by Karma Wilson – this rhyming book about a bear lost at night and the friends who rescue him might be very comforting to children who are afraid of the dark (and everyone else too!) Preschool.

## Rhyme of the Month

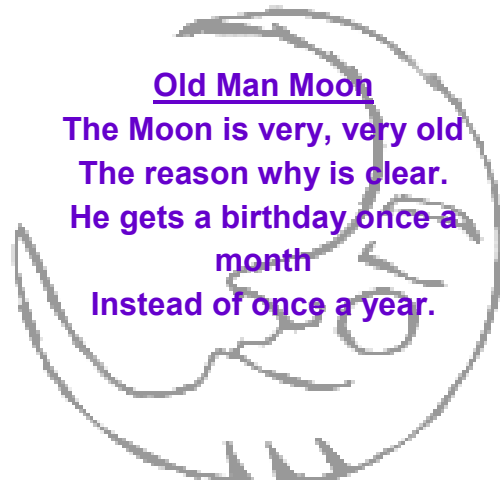
### Sleeping Time

Down comes the sun  
And up comes the moon  
*(lower hands down and then up)*  
It will be sleeping time soon  
*(lay cheek on hands)*  
Birds are quiet in the trees  
*(put finger to lips)*  
Cows are resting on their knees  
*(rub knees)*  
Sleepy children are tucked into beds  
With good night kisses  
On their heads.  
*(Blow a gentle kiss)*

## Poem of the Month

### Old Man Moon

The Moon is very, very old  
The reason why is clear.  
He gets a birthday once a  
month  
Instead of once a year.



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

## Learning Ideas for June:

### Observations

Choose a tree in or near your childcare. Look for a deciduous tree whose leaves will change rather than an evergreen. Go outside with the children and draw their attention to the tree. Ask them what they notice about the tree. What color is it? What do the leaves look like? What else do they notice? Write down all the children's observations. At each of the four seasons, remind the children about the day that you all 'observed' the tree. Return to the tree each season and record new observations. Compare them with the previous ones. Look for similarities and differences and talk about them together.



### Wondering

Engage the children in a discussion about day and night. Ask them what the difference between day and night? How can they tell when it's day? How can they tell when it's night? What do they think causes the difference? What do the children do during the day? What do they do at night? Wonder about the children's observations. For example, if they say, "it's light during the day" wonder aloud why it's light during the day. Rather than share your own knowledge, encourage the children to come up with answers and ideas on their own. Talk together about their ideas. Look for ways to build on their ideas with accurate information—online or in books.

### Reading Practice

Over the summer, young school-aged children can lose a lot of the reading gains that they achieved during the school year. To prevent that from happening and allow children to build on what they have learned, we want to give them plenty of reading time over the summer. The library has an entire program designed to inspire reading and information seeking in children. Reading logs, book recommendations, activity ideas, special programs, you can find it all at your local library and on our website.

Join in the Summer Fun!

[www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org)

The Pierce County Library features many **free summer programs** for children of all ages. Check out the happenings at your local library at [www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org)!

Have Fun!

If you have questions about this newsletter or if you would like to register for STARS trainings, call 253-548-3424 or email [susana@piercecountylibrary.org](mailto:susana@piercecountylibrary.org) for details.