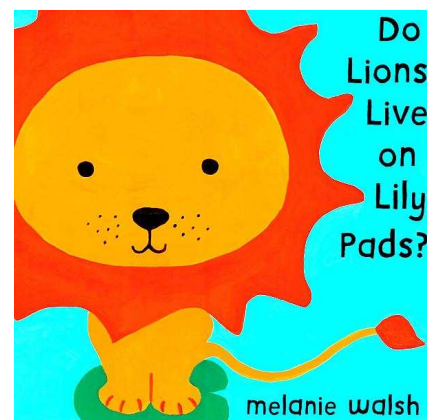


Book of the Month:

Do Lions Live on Lily Pads by Melanie Walsh

They say that March comes in like a Lion so this adorable book seemed the perfect choice this month. Preschoolers will laugh at the silly questions about where different animals make their homes. Cute, fun and funny!



Other fun books about Houses

Bear at Home by Stella Blackstone—Bear describes his home in very simple, and sweet details. Toddlers.

Home for a Bunny by Margaret Wise Brown—Classic old golden book with a timeless story of a bunny searching for the right home. Preschoolers.

The Three Little Pigs by Paul Galdone. All children should be privileged to hear this wonderful story read aloud. (Everyone needs to huff and puff sometimes!) Preschoolers.

Lizard's Song by George Shannon—Lizard sings a song about his beloved home and bear believes he needs the song for himself. Great book for preschoolers and young school aged children.

The Napping House by Don and Audrey Wood—A classic picture book about the many creatures that nap on Granny's bed. A favorite with people of all ages.

Mouse's Birthday by Jane Yolen— Everyone tries to squeeze into Mouse's house for a party—with somewhat interesting consequences! Preschoolers.

Rhyme of the Month

Here is a nest for the robin

(Form your hands into a nest)

Here is a hive for the bee

(Clasp fingers together to make a "hive")

Here is a home for the bunny

(Form your fingers into a hole shape)

And here is a house for me!

(Make a triangle with arms over head)

Poem of the Month

There was an owl lived in an oak

Wisky, wasky, weedle,

And every word he ever spoke

Was fiddle, faddle, feedle.

Mother Goose



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

Literacy ideas for March:

Phonological Awareness

The easiest way to develop the skill of hearing the smaller parts of words is by singing. You don't have to have an American Idol worthy voice to have fun singing with children. You just need to sing! The library has many CD's with wonderful songs that encourage everyone to join in. Every group of children is different and so it might take some listening to find the perfect CD for your class, but the search is worth it! Music stimulates many areas of the brain—opening the door to wonderful, rich learning. Check out the variety of music at the library!

Listening

One of the Washington State Early Learning Benchmarks for children is "listening." We can help all our children develop this important skill by giving them many opportunities throughout the day to listen.

For Infants—talk to them as much as possible, name things, describe objects, tell them stories about what is happening around you that day. Put on a quiet CD and sing gently along. Perhaps play with their fingers and toes while you sing.

For Toddlers—Use puppets or props when telling a story—it helps hold their attention. Play a CD of short nursery rhymes. Repeat the songs and sing and dance along. Include songs and stories from the children's home language/culture whenever possible. Pretend to talk to children on a telephone.

For Preschoolers—Look for longer books to use at Circle time. Use magazines and catalogs and describe the items in them. Play games that require listening: Red Light, Green Light, Simon Says etc. Use props and gestures so that English Language learners can participate with classroom activities.

Math Skills



When most of us think of math and young children, we think of counting. But there are many other important math concepts—patterns, shapes, measuring, sorting, data analysis and math words: same, different, high, low, up, down, heavy, light, over, under, on, above, order, group, alone, matching, beside, backward, forward, first, last, biggest, smallest, heaviest, longest, etc. Beginning this week, try to insert a math activity into day to day planning. Give the children objects to sort, build a block pattern and have the children copy it, encourage the children act out certain math words with their bodies.

Find fun ways to begin developing math skills!

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.