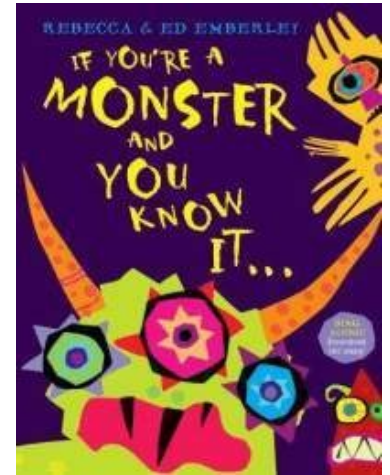


September 2013

Book of the Month

If You're a Monster and You Know it by Rebecca and Ed Emberley

This hilarious take-off on the song, "If You're Happy and You Know It" is such fun to read aloud and such fun to act out, that it could become the children's favorite title in no time. Perfect for those days when excess energy abounds. Preschool and young school-age.



Other fun books featuring *Singing*

Ten in the Den by Jon Butler – The old song with adorable illustrations. Preschool.

If You're Happy and You Know It by Jane Cabrera—This version of the song has vibrant animal illustrations. Great for all ages.

Today is Monday by Eric Carle—This wonderful book holds appeal for all ages.

A Tisket A Tasket by Ella Fitzgerald—The old song gets a facelift from the great Jazz singer in this vibrantly illustrated book. Preschool.

A You're Adorable by Buddy Kaye—This book is such fun children won't even realize how much vocabulary building they are doing! Preschool and young school-age.

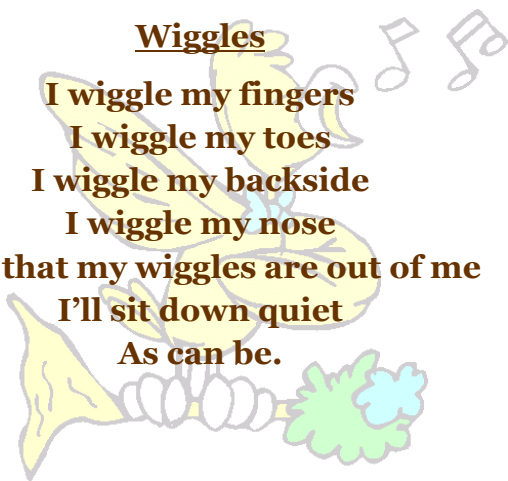
If You're Happy and You Know It by Anna McQuinn—Beautifully illustrated, this book just begs to be acted out. Another great title for working out the 'wiggles'. Preschool.

Spider on the Floor by Bill Russell—Creepy, crawly and so much fun, this title will be asked for again and again. Preschool.

Rhyme of the Month

Wiggles

I wiggle my fingers
I wiggle my toes
I wiggle my backside
I wiggle my nose
Now that my wiggles are out of me
I'll sit down quiet
As can be.



Poem of the Month

Singing

Of speckled eggs the birdie sings
And nests among the trees
The sailor sings of ropes and things
In ships upon the seas.
The children sing in far Japan
The children sing in Spain
The organ with the organ man
Is singing in the rain.

★ Robert Louis Stevenson

Learning Ideas for September:

Writing

Think about focusing on encouraging writing this month.

For babies and toddlers, this means practice with the pincer action.

(Giving them small things to pick up with their fingers.) Cheerios are an option. The practice of pinching their fingers together will eventually lead into holding a drawing implement.

For older children, provide a variety of different drawing implements:

Crayons, chalk, pens, pencils, markers, paint brushes, etc. If you want to keep things tidy—provide the children with brushes and pails of water and let them ‘paint’ the walls outside.



Nature

Autumn is a wonderful season to draw children to changes happening out of doors. Here are some ideas for art activities to engage your children this month:

- ◆ Gather and wash rocks and let the children paint designs or words on them.
- ◆ Gather leaves and place paper over the leaves. Rub over the leaves with crayons to make ‘rubblings’.
- ◆ Gather items from outside: sticks, pebbles, leaves, seeds, moss etc. and encourage the children to make Nature Collages.
- ◆ Create a Nature Table inside using similar items gathered above. Encourage the children to examine and discuss the objects. What are they? Where did they come from? How will they change through the seasons? Etc.

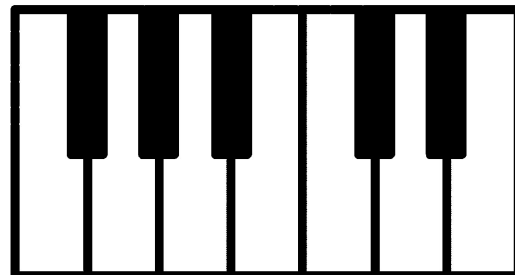
Singing

Since the books featured this month all focus on singing, gather the children together (if they are old enough to gather!) and create a classroom list of all the songs that you can think of to sing.

Every day (or a few times a day—this could be a nice transition activity) select one of the songs on the list to sing together. If a child named a song that no one else knows, give them the opportunity to sing it or teach it to the others.

If you feel particularly creative, make up some classroom songs about daily activities or a field trip or something else related to the children's daily lives.

Sing on!



Have Fun!

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)