

Books of the Month

One Family by George Shannon

By looking at the variety of families—some only two, some a dozen or more, this book encourages children to count in a creative way. The families featured are racially and culturally diverse both as a whole and within individual families. The tone of the book is loving and gentle yet there is enough content here to bring children back again and again. Highly recommended for older toddlers and up.



Other fun books about Math:

Ten Black Dots by Donald Crews—A wonderful beginning number and counting book. Quite simple, but includes counting, (to 10) numerals, dots that help support 1 to 1 correspondence, and all in a simple format appropriate for toddlers and preschool.

TouchThinkLearn: Numbers by Xavier Deneux—Simple board book with cut-outs and raised-texture numbers. Perfect for the younger learners. Infants and toddlers.

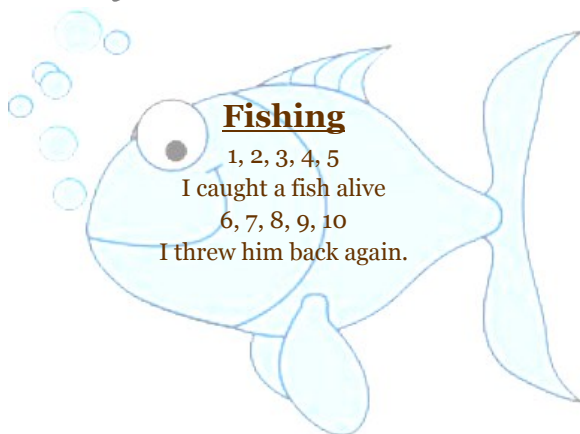
Stick and Stone by Beth Ferry – Children will enjoy the friendship between the stick and the stone and the fun play on numbers as well. Preschool.

Perfect Square by Michael Hall—This wonderful and creative book shows many ways a square can be manipulated. Preschool.

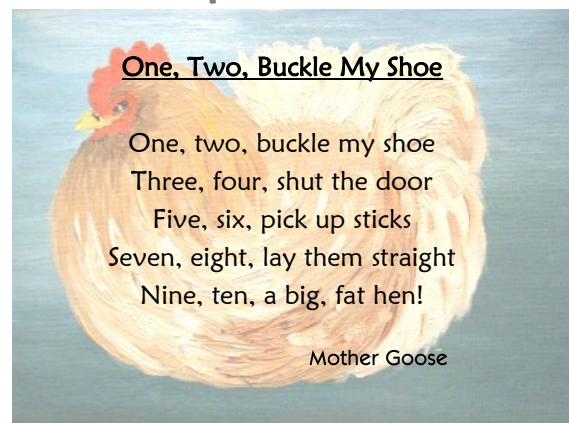
The Deep, Deep Puddle by Mary Jesse Parker—An imaginative story about the many number of city things that fall into a deep puddle. Children will enjoy the humor and it counts past ten! Preschool.

Two Mice by Sergio Ruzzier – Simple enough to read with toddlers and funny enough to read with everyone else, this book features simple counting and an amusing storyline. Toddlers and up.

Rhyme of the Month



Poem of the Month



Free STARS trainings are listed at www.piercecountylibrary.org

You may register for STARS classes by clicking on the date of the class on the **Calendar** of the

Pierce County Library website: www.piercecountylibrary.org

Learning Ideas for January:

Egg Carton Math

1. Write or print and paste the numerals 1–12 randomly in each section of the egg carton.
2. Decorate the egg carton if desired.
3. Put a small object (button or paper clip) inside the egg carton. Look for one that will make a little noise when the lid of the carton is closed and shaken up.
4. Have a child close the lid of the carton and shake, shake, shake it!
5. Then have the child open the lid of the egg carton and see on which number the object has landed.
6. Encourage the child to say that number out loud. Write it down and then draw tally marks next to the numeral that show what it actually represents.
7. Repeat steps 3–5 until the object has landed in each compartment at least once.

To involve more children—pass the egg carton around so everyone who wants gets a turn.



Shape Paintings

Tape white paper onto tabletops.

Provide a selection of crayons and encourage the children to fill their paper with shapes of all different sizes and colors. This is a great opportunity to introduce them to some new shapes they may be unfamiliar with, such as stars, moons, and ovals! Show them some examples on a separate piece of paper.

Once their paper is filled with shapes, remove the crayons and place a small cup of water, a paintbrush, and watercolor paints within reach.

Invite them to paint over the crayon shapes with watercolor paints, and watch the crayon shapes pop through the paint.

Urge them to continue painting until their papers are covered with paint, without any white paper showing through.

Identify the shapes that they choose and talk about them while the children are working.

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)